the latest ISSUE

volume five
issue five

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Our Lives, Our Films

2nd Sacramento Gay and Lesbian Film Festival ready to roll October 8th and 9th.

See feature on page 18

SACRAMENTO'S NEWS MAGAZINE FOR THE GAY COMMUNITY AND ITS FRIENDS

Living Without the Benefits of

Heterosexual Privilege



See feature story on page 9

Photo by Brian Ashby



The Rainbow Festival Committee Wishes to Thank the following groups and people for their part in making the 1993 Rainbow Festival such a huge success.

Affirmation, AIDS Legal Referral Panel, Amador Studio, Animal Watch, Art Explosion, A Tough of Color, Barbary Coast Cloggers, Barbetta's Beads, Be Proud, Black and White Recovery, Capitol City Squares, CGNIE Inc., Chyenne, Coffee Tea & Co., Concierge, Unltd., Dancing Rainbows, Diogenes Youth Services, Don't Panic, Enpower Wear, Fairy Godfathers, Front Runners, Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, Greater Sacramento Area Couples, Golden State Gay Rodeo Assn., Hawaiian Ice, Heatwaves, Hot Flashes, Human Rights Campaign Fund, Immenschuh Unltd. Design, Kent Jewelry, LACE, LA Classics, LA Specialty Printing, Lambda Community Center, Lambda Letters, Lambda Players, Lesbian and Gay Business Alliance, Lite Rail Gallery, Love Pets, Mansch Jewelry, Masterbeat, Mug Rack, Names Project, News & Review, Out Loud, Pregorative Graphics, Rag Bag, Rainbow Gayme, Rainbow Real Estate Professionals, Tony Ray, RCDC, Restoration Fellowship Church, Sac. Area Bisexual Network, SACWN, Sac. AIDS Foundation, SAGA, Sierra Club, SLA, SLCC, SMC, Sports Leisure Travel, Stonewall Alliance of Chico, Suttertown News, Twin Spirits Veterans, Donna Walderman, WHAM!, Wreck Room, Sue Henderson, the Latest ISSUE, Caricatures, Frank Johnson, SKYY Vodka, Tom Groft - Southern Wine Spirits, Emperor Steve, Empress Yvette, Al Cognelton, Markstein Beverage Co., Randy Riggs, Gayle Vaughn, Andros, Pennies from Heaven, Sherman Warren, The Art Show, Nick Perry Productions, Moon Shine Entertainment, Barefoot Wine, Leon, Kerry Holsworth and Pat Hansen, Mikes Audio Systems, Max Thompson and Eric Adams for the Tina Turner Weekend, Billy Ray, the Lavendar Angels, Lady Garnet and Leonard, Chalk it Up to Sacramento, Kevin Cohee of Off Paper Design, Akili Jay, Michael Spencer, Ray Pisciotta, Clair Nouveau, Bobbette and the Mercantile Saloon, the Western, Faces Women's Softball Team, Michael Xepolais, Shannon McCullough, and Miller.

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AROUND TOWN

Sacramento Looks Fine at Rainbow Festival

by **Samir Desai**

The Rainbow Festival during labor day weekend offered events for everyone: from great entertainment by Martha Wash, to a jam packed Street Fair on Sunday. It was a cruisers' paradise as the community came together, looking *fine.*

The show by Martha Wash was dynamite. She started her show by saying, "My album is out and it went to number one on the dance charts and I thank you for your support." Although the majority of the audience consisted of gays and lesbians, there were also quite a few visible straight couples. One straight couple standing next to me said, "We have been coming to the Rainbow Festival for the past 2 years. One of our friends is gay, and he brought us over here and ever since then we have been visiting Faces every so often."

The Rainbow Festival Street Fair on Sept. 5, was the highlight of the weekend. With 87 booths, this year's Street Fair was the largest ever. Entertainment for the mild afternoon included the queer band Panzy Division, along with wet jockey short and t-shirt contests.

Sunday night comic Lois Bromfield made her appearance at Faces. She said, "It's been a year since I was last here and it seems like a lot of things have changed; things look different but as usual it feels great to be a part of Rainbow Festival again. It also feels great to be a dyke, and not just any dyke but a big fucking hairy dyke." She mentioned that this fall she is going to be writing for the Roseanne show, and out of 5 writers 3 are gay. She mentioned the importance of coming out, and towards the end she performed her ever popular Sorority Girls routine.

The money raised from this week-long festival benefits Hope House and the Lambda Community Center. As of Sept. 8, Terry Sidie, the owner of Faces and organizer of the festival said the weekend's events had cleared $15,000 and he was hoping for additional $3,000 to donate to the charities.

The red tape and additional city costs were a challenge for the organizers this year. More police officers were required by the city this year, "Considering the fact that 3000 to 4000 people showed up for the festival, there was not a single arrest or any problem. I am absolutely pleased at everyone's cooperation," said Sidie.

The Street Fair meant much more than simply being part of the Rainbow Festival 1993, it also served its purpose as one of year's biggest cruising events. Steve Bald, a gay student at the city college came to the festival with his two gay friends and one straight friend. He said, "You see a lot of people in the bar during night time, but you really do not know what they look like. If you just turn your head around, you can see a lot of beautiful people around." Steve's straight friend also said, "I didn't know gay people looked this normal and fine too."

Sacramento's lesbian, gay and bi community was definitely looking fine!



BRIAN ASHBY

Organizers said nearly 4,000 people attended this year's Festival.

Whose Family is it, Anyway?

by **P.J. Dunker**

For the third time in three consecutive years, state legislator Tim Leslie has introduced a bill to constitutionally define a family.

On March 3 of this year Senator Leslie introduced the same bill, known as the Family Bill of Rights, as SCA 18. The bill would restrict the definition of family to a man and woman related by marriage, or a parent and his or her children, natural or adopted.

The importance of this piece of legislation lies in its attempt to constitutionally define, and protect that definition of a family.

Webster's Ninth Collegiate dictionary lists the definition of family as: *the basic unit in society having as its nucleus two or more adults living together and cooperating in the care and rearing of their own or adopted children,* and also more generally as: *a group of individuals under one roof and usually under one head.*

According to the 1987 state census only 55.5% of all households in California consist of married couples. Based on statistical trends this number may

continued on page 24



NAMES PROJECT SACRAMENTO PRESENTS

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Art for AIDS Gala October 9th

Saturday, Oct. 9 is the date for the Association of Sacramento Advertising Photographers (ASAP) sponsored event, "Breaking Boundaries, Art for AIDS Gala, " a benefit for the Sacramento AIDS Foundation.

The purpose of the event is to raise funds for the local non-profit foundation which provides support services for those infected with the HIV/AIDS virus. But most importantly, the event provides the forum for Sacramento' creative community to exhibit their talents along with the opportunity to help a worthwhile cause.

"The AIDS epidemic has affected each of us whether we have personally lost someone to this disease or not,"says Brian Ashby, Commercial Photographer and "Art For AIDS Gala" chairman. "It is my hope that this event will not only be an educational experience for the quests but also for the artists involved. The "boundaries" to be broken are sometimes within our own minds."

ASAP's "Art For AIDS Gala" is the first annual Advertising Photographers Supporting the Arts charity benefit. ASAP expects to raise $8,000 for the Sacramento AIDS Foundation.

These original works of art will be on display at "The Art For AIDS Gala" located on the top floor of the new One Capitol Mall building in Sacramento, beginning at six o'clock in the evening.

The event will be a semi-formal affair serving complimentary wine and hors d'oeuvres.

For ticket information, contact the Sacramento AIDS Foundation at 448-2437 or ASAP at 944-2128. The cost to attend the event is a $25 per person, tax deductible, charitable contribution to the Sacramento AIDS Foundation.

Heroes Needed That Fight AIDS

ACR 60, a bill sponsored by the LIFE AIDS lobby and introduced by Speaker Willie Brown (D- San Francisco), seeks to acknowledge the people of California who line the trenches in the war against AIDS.

The intent of the bill is to express gratitude to all the people in the state who have started AIDS and HIV related services and organizations, been active in advocating help, whether through education, health services, funding, research, political expertise, or just through their compassion for the many victims of the AIDS virus.

The bill also recognizes that the gay and lesbian community in particular has many people who have acted as leaders in the fight against AIDS.

The LIFE AIDS lobby is soliciting organizations and interested parties to contribute the names of their respective heroes, so that the list might include as many as possible, and further illuminate the enormity of the AIDS epidemic and the courage required to confront it.

In order to achieve this, the bill is being held over for the 1994 legislative session. If you would like more information or to submit information, contact Laurie McBride at the LIFE AIDS lobby at 926 J Street, Suite 1020, (916) 444-0424.

Remembrance and Renewal

The Sacramento Men's Chorus will present "Hidden Legacies" a concert performed by the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus and featuring music performed by the Sacramento Men's Chorus. The concert, along with the display of the Names Project Memorial Quilt, entitled " A Personal Journey, will create a weekend of remembrance, reflection and renewal.

The concert will be held on Saturday, Sept. 25 at 8 p.m. at

continued on page 6

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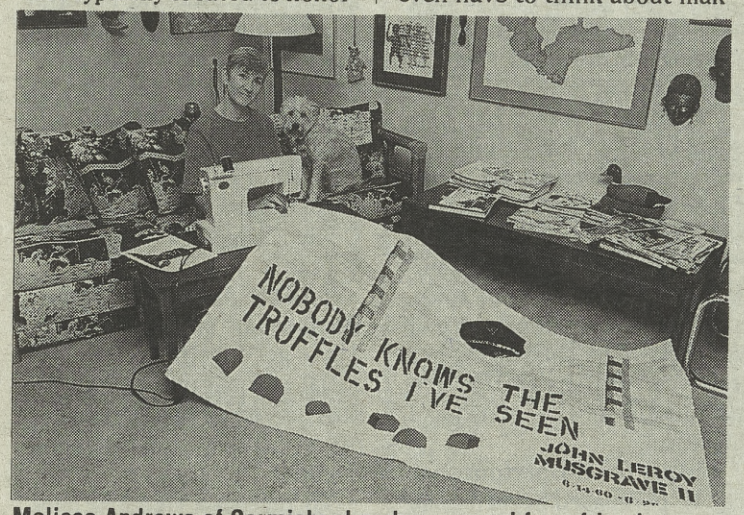
See the Names Quilt and Feel the Emotions

by Mike Kelly

When a portion of the Names Project Quilt comes to Sacramento's Convention Center this month, many people will be seeing the very panels they created for their loved ones who have died of AIDS. For many others, the experience of viewing more than 1200 individual panels will be overpowering.

A portion of the Names Project Quilt will be the weekend of Sept. 24 at the Convention Center in downtown Sacramento (see inset story).

Traditionally patchworks were typically created to honor the birth of a new family member by parents and grandparents. Now it is often those same relatives who complete the cycle by memorializing their untimely deaths in stitchwork.



Melissa Andrews of Carmichael makes a panel for a friend.

These cloth statements graphically depict lives cut short, still in their prime. These life-emblems show stark irony to the age-old sartorial art of quilting together beautiful child-like splashes of color. Only with death can the tapestry of one's life finally be seen fully, shown from the backside, with all its intricate interweaving. These tapestries that make up the Quilt have origins as diverse as the personalities they honor.

It was news of the upcoming national display of the Quilt almost a year ago that finally got one local woman sufficiently motivated to do a panel. Patti Paddock felt it would be ideal to have her brother's panel ready for that event. But she kept dragging her feet, because even starting his panel was very emotional for her. "I cried a lot," she admitted, "and some of my tear stains are on John's panel."

"My overwhelming feeling was of anger: anger that he had to die; anger that there even has to be a Quilt; anger that I should even have to think about making this panel," said Paddock, "Young people like him are dying, and that's just not suppose to happen. I could never have done the panel right after he died."

Patti also had a hard time getting going on it because, like so many other people, she is a procrastinator. "I need to have a concrete goal and a specific deadline," she said. "The July deadline for last October's display forced me and gave me that push. It helped me remember those last months when we reminisced about the many things we shared in our lives."

She started doubting her skills to make something worthy of her brother. Patti became haunted by the fear that John's panel wouldn't be perfect, until she finally admitted, "You can never make anything truly worthy of someone you loved and lost. It can only be a gesture of esteem. You don't have to be an artist, either; but you do have to be ready."

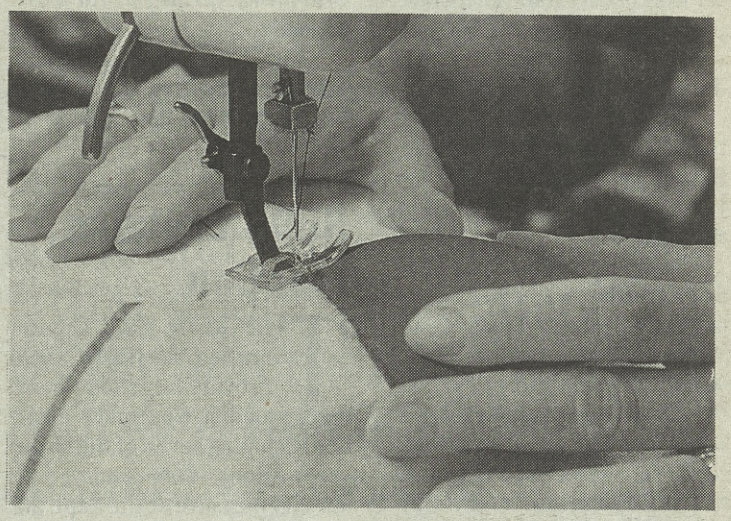
She drew several sketches, but she had so many ideas that she "couldn't decide what it was about my brother that I wanted to show the world, I went shopping and bought all the materials in one day." After enlisting the expert sewing skills of her lover she completed the panel in two weekends.

Paddock's brother John was an incredible gardener who once transformed a run-down building mostly by his use of cala lilies & bougainvillea arbors. So along the border of his panel she stitched fabric that was printed with green vines and brilliant bougainvillea on a black background.

In the center of the panel she stenciled a large blow-up of his signature, outlined it, and filled it in with permanent fabric pens. "If I would have given myself more time by starting a month earlier," she advised, "I would have embroidered the outline. Some of my brother's writing is also recorded on his panel, and I put a goodbye letter on it, written and signed by me and my parents."

"Although my brother didn't like bright colors his panel is bright. I wanted to stick with the browns, blacks, and tans that he wore but for some reason he also like mauve, so I used that color predominantly."

Patti said she felt really pleased with the way John's panel came out, but added. "There's so much more I could have done; in fact, I could have done five panels for him with the materials I sifted through to do this one."



Photos by Brian Ashby

A panel begins with the memory of the person who has died.

"When I see the Quilt now having made a panel, I feel I have contributed to the whole. It really helps with the grieving process." said Paddock, "I felt like I was going through it all over again when I was making his panel. He was so much more present in my mind. Then I started wondering. 'Am I going to cry all over again?' Is this going to take the scabs off all the wounds?" But not all the scabs get ripped off, according to Patti. "I wasn't bleeding again. I wasn't out of control again. I could go to work and still be okay."

Patti offered soem guidelines for future panels :

Determine how much time you can devote to planning it out. What do you want to keep with you or remember about the person? How long you will have to complete it? Balance the loved one's known wishes with the survivor's current needs.

Some have quilts have several panels made for them, including tapestries that must have taken years to create. Other people even plan their own panels before their deaths like Jim DiStephano.

"Some people are just stuck at the idea of me doing my own panel, " admits Jim. "They may think it's morbid, but my spirituality allows me the freedom and power it takes. Doing your own panel is real good when you're doing your lover's at the same time," he said. "I can constantly add to mine while I'm still alive."

Jim collects "elephantalia," so on his panel both tusk and tail sides of a pachyderm t-shirt can be found.

Names Project Comes to Convention Center

The Sacramento Display Committee for The Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt will be presenting, 1,280, three-foot by six-foot panels, each commemorating the life of someone who has died of AIDS the weekend of Sept. 24, 25 and 26.

Friday, Sept. 24 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m will be "Kids Day at the Quilt." Students from local schools have been invited to visit the Quilt. "Kids Day at the Quilt," is a pilot project to educate children and educators about HIV/AIDS and its prevention.

Seeing the Quilt provides a setting for young people top see and feel the human side of the disease.

The Opening Ceremonies will commence on Friday Sept. 24, at 7 p.m. at the Sacramento Convention Center. Dennis Mangers, senior Vice President of California Cable T.V. Association, will preside over the ceremonies.

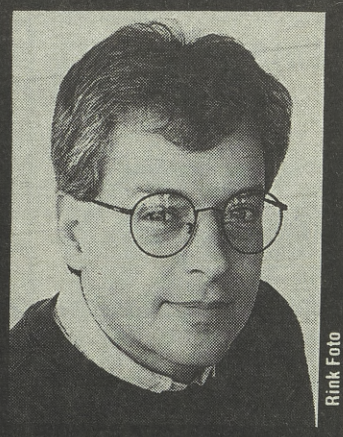
Cleve Jones, founder of the Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt will be the guest speaker.

Also scheduled to speak will be Dr. Neil Flynn, Sacramento's primary HIV care provider.

For more information on the opening ceremonies, please contact Debby Bell, Ceremony Coordinator, at 455-0964.

Donations collected at the display will be distributed equally between the Center for AIDS Research, Education and Services (CARES), and the Sacramento AIDS Foundation.

The display will be open Friday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., (Closed briefly from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm); Saturday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. with the closing ceremony commencing at 5 p.m.



Rink Foto

Cleve Jones will speak at the opening ceremonies.

NEWSBITS

continued from page 4

The Crest Theater, 1013 K Street Mall, Sacramento. A private reception will be held after the concert and will include preferred seating for $20 advance purchase and $25 at the door.

General admission tickets, that do not include the reception or preferred seating, are $12 advance purchase and $15 at the door.

The title composition, "Hidden Legacies" is an emotionally powerful piece of music composed by Roger Bourland, director of electronic music and chairman of music at UCLA. He was commssioned last year to compose the piece as a response to the AIDS crisis by the Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles.

Scored for four synthesizers, percussion and electric bass, "Hidden Legacies" relies heavily on pop music idioms, with identifiable influences of composers as diverse as Beethoven, Leonard Bernsteinn and Stravinsky thrown in for good measure.

For further information about the concert, contact the Sacramento Men's Chorus at 444-5213.

RCDC Explains Election

The River City Democratic Club (RCDC) will provide information on the upcoming November election including seven of the state propositions, two county and one city measure at the Sept. 20 meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the YWCA, 17th & L Streets.

Twin Spirits Dead From Infighting

Twin Spirits Veterans Association (TSVA) has disbanded due to dis agreement within the organization between the current President Vicki Vaughn, and Founder Lynn Strawbridge.

The disagreement reportedly focused on the decision of who would be in charge of the annual Tribute to Gay and Lesbian Veterans held near Veteran's Day.

Strawbridge has had the organization's bank accounts discontinued and has filed to keep other's from using the name -- Twin Spirits Veterans Association.

At a September meeting, the board of the River City Metropolitan Community Church chose to discontinue affiliation with TSVA due to the uproar caused by the disagreement.

Anderson Sings For SACWN

Jamie Anderson, singer, songwriter and comic will perform her warm, funny and often outrageous songs at the September monthly meeting of the Sacramento Area Career Women's Network on Saturday, Sept. 18. The program will be held in Curtis Hall at the Sierra 2 Community Center, 2791 24th Street, Sacramento starting at 6:30 p.m. with a social hour followed by the performance at 7:30 p.m.

Anderson is a versatile per-



Jamie Anderson.

former who has been touring nationally since 1987. She has played in coffeehouses and concert halls in over 70 cities. Last year, Jamie performed at nine women's music festivals, appearing on the main stage at the major gatherings.

Anderson weaves her personal brand of humor into her reflection lesbian life. She sings funny and touching songs about the life and romances of the "average goddess babe lesbian." Using her soothing alto voice, she entertains, stimulates and supports while challenging her audience with lyrics that are haunting, whimsical, quirky and beautiful.

Tickets for the performance can be purchased by mail or by calling SACWN at 451-8034. Price range from $10 for subscribers, $15 for non-subribers to $20 at the door. This SACWN event is open to women over 21 only.

Gay Educators Work Together

If you are a teacher, college student, administrator, board of education mem ber, or are otherwise affiliated with education, you may want to make a stronger impact in your own life or in the lives of gay/lesbian/bisexual youths by becoming a member of the Sacramento Area Gay and Lesbian Educators (SAGLE).

SAGLE was recently asked by the CTA (California Association of Teachers) what position our 138 member organization might be taking regarding the so-called "voucher system" initiative.

At our July meeting the voting members unanimously decided to go on record as opposing this measure. We believe it (1) undermines the future of public education, (2) transgresses the sanctum between church and state, and (3) provides no protection for gay/lesbian/bisexual teachers or students in public-funded private or religious schools. On July 16, 1993 the California State Commission on Teacher Credentialing also resolved to oppose it.

SAGLE meets the second Wednesday of each month. Their get-togethers alternate social potlucks one month with business programs or speaker presentations the following month.

To receive a free brochure with complete information about this group and their activities, or to get their monthly newsletter, leave Barbara a message at 457-7945 or talk with Mike at 456-1610.

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HIV POSITIVE

Nutritional Deficiences and HIV Infection

by Mike DeHart

The subject of nutritional supplements as a therapy (or as an adjunctive for HIV infection) has been and continues to be the subject of much controversy.

Some say that supplements offer no benefit and confer a false sense of hope at the expense of the consumer. Others would say that not only do supplements help stave off disease process, they can actually help increase CD4 cell counts. Many prominent researchers and doctors (such as Joan C. Priestly, who incidentally has one of the best track records for longevity and survival for AIDS patients) share the opinion of the value of nutritional supplements and use them as a first line treatment in their patients.

It has been shown that people with HIV infection often have nutrient deficiencies and some specific nutrients are commonly deficient in HIV positive individuals. According to Marcy Fenton, M.S., "Practitioners must be aware that good nutrition is not an "alternative" therapy, it is a fundamental component of medical care."

Vitamin C is produced naturally in 99% of mammals, human beings are part of the 1% which do not produce it naturally. According to a study by Dr. Linus Pauling, 12 grams a day or more of vitamin C may inhibit the replication of HIV. This important nutrient has action against bacteria, viruses, and fungi. It is generally non-toxic, an overdose usually results in nothing more serious than loosening of the bowels.

B-12 is the most commonly deficient vitamin in HIV positive individuals. Joan Priestly uses this vitamin in injectable form to treat and prevent dementia. It may help people who have non-AZT related anemia.

Vitamin E helps to remove toxicities from the blood. It may also help eczema, and "itchy, dry skin" conditions. Some studies have also shown it to help treat and prevent some forms of cancer, including breast cancer. Doses over 800 i.u.s. a day may cause fatigue in some individuals, although this is not common. Also, a high dose vitamin E has been shown to reduce neuropathy pain in 37% of patients.

Essential fatty acids. A good source of essential fatty acids is flax seed oil. It is available from most health food stores, and should cost about $7 per 2 weeks. Evening primrose oil is also a good source, and has some anti-viral activity, but is more expensive.

> "Practitioners must be aware that good nutrition is not an "alternative" therapy, it is a fundamental component of medical care."

B-6 is often considered the most important vitamin in immune deficient individuals, and helps in production of DNA. In theory, this could help people who have been taking DNA chain terminators such as AZT, ddI, ddC, d4T. This important vitamin also helps the metabolism of protein. A helpful amount would be about 100 mg. a day.

Co-enzyme Q-10 helps with cellular respiration, keeps heart muscle and thymus in proper working order. Completely non-toxic in high doses (up to 180 mg. per day), it has helped increase energy levels in people taking AZT.

Beta-carotene -- once in the body, converts rapidly to vitamin A. This vitamin helps with thymic function, and studies using high doses as an immune modulator are currently under way in San Francisco.

Zinc may help in smell and taste disorders.

Quercitin is being studied by the National Institute of Health for its anti-cancer activity. Dr. Priestly has almost no cancers (including KS) in her patients and feels this may be an important factor.

This is designed to be a short list of the most commonly deficient vitamins in HIV positive individuals, and should not be considered comprehensive. For referral to a nutritional counselor, please call Positive Alternatives at (916) 446-6114.

DEADLINES
The editorial deadline for our next issue is October 1st. Camera-ready advertising materials are due by October 5.

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Coming Out Day Takes its Next Step to HRCF

by Ken Locke

October 11, 1993 will be the sixth annual National Coming Out Day, a day for gay, lesbian and bisexual people across the nation -- and around the world --to be seen and heard.

In February of 1993, the Human Rights Campaign Foundation took on National Coming Out Day as a sponsored project, after the National Coming Out Day committee decided that merging with a larger organization would give them more clout and greater visibility.

October 11 was chosen as National Coming Out Day to commemorate the October 11, 1987 March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. October 11 also commemorates the inaugural visit of the Names Project to the nation's capital. National Coming Out Day was created by a group of 200 lesbian, gay and bisexual community leaders who gathered in Virginia in February of 1988. Today it is celebrated in all fifty states, as well as in Puerto Rico, Indonesia, Guam, and Switzerland.

One theme of National Coming Out Day is "Take your next step!"; this is intended to encourage each individual to take the next step that is appropriate for himself of herself in coming out, which is not a singular event, but rather, is a continuing process. The other theme is "Take the message home!"-- a message encouraging gays, lesbians and bisexuals to come out at work, in the local community, and to family.

The National Coming Out Day central headquarters are located in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and the other coordinating offices are in Los Angeles, Denver, Dallas, Seattle, Las Vegas, and Northern California (including offices in San Francisco, Santa Barbara, and Santa Cruz). In addition to coordinating events in every state, the National Coming Out Day Campaign works closely with individual activists, organizations and student groups (currently there are more than 700 student organizations on the NCOD mailing list). National Coming Out Day also promotes coming out through literature, and conducts an education and visibility campaign in the gay and non-gay media.

In 1988, its first year, National Coming Out Day received coverage in more than 40 mainstream and 58 gay publications, and received national median attention from Oprah, CNN, USA Today, National Public Radio, and This Way Out.

> "People are realizing that the only way to make change is to come out. More people are choosing to be visible."

The campaign was organized on a grassroots level. Press releases in March and August and a direct mail campaign helped the publicize the activities and raised funds.

Now National Coming Out Day is an independent, tax-exempt, non-profit national organization, and has a mailing list of more than 110 broadcast and print media. NCOD receives the majority of its funding from selling merchandise, and a large amount also from sponsors and NCOD's Ad Donor Program, sponsors contribute money ($100 or more) and in return are listed on NCOD's Donor Ad, which is published year round in The Advocate and other major gay and lesbian publications.

Lynn Shepodd, who was Executive Director since National Coming Out Day's inception, resigned from her position in February 1993 and is now running the Sante Fe AIDS Walk in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Currently, National Coming Out Day has a management position open, but in the interim Deborah Massa is working as the liaison between NCOD and HRCF, at the HRCF offices in Washington, D.C.. Previously Massa was on the Los Angeles NCOD Coordinating Committee until December of 1992, spent three months managing the headquarters in Santa Fe, and then went to work at the HRCF in March of 1993.

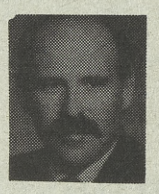
"This year has been an incredible year for the gay and lesbian issues," said Massa. "I think one of the big reasons we've been in the Presidential campaign, why we've been talked about in just about every national publication, is that so many people are coming out. People are realizing that the only way to make change is to come out. More people are choosing to be visible."

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Heterosexual Privilege: Isn't That Special?

A Commentary
by Michael R. Gorman

He was one of my first gay friends after I came out of the closet. He had always lived in the semi-out world of gay parties and gay resorts and Sunday brunches and gay bars.

His immediate family knew his sexuality, but he agreed not to talk about "gay things" around them. (Being a "gay thing" himself, he could say little about his life, just bits and pieces that could be construed as heterosexually based.)

One co-worker knew of his gayness, and she participated with the relish of a member of a secret club in the conspiracy of altered pronouns and gender ambiguity when discussing his life around others. He queened out in private and played straight in public.

After years of practice, he knew the system, and it worked for him. He had built a comfortable if careful and mildly paranoid life.

When I began to join the marches and protests, he could not understand my activism. I became a threat to his hard won comfort.

He had not lived my thirty years of closet life, complete with all of the accompanying privileges of heterosexuality, only to have them swept away after deciding to be honest with myself and others. He could not miss what he never knew.

"You radical types are always talking about oppression. I don't know what you're talking about. I'm not oppressed. I'm as free as anyone else."

"When you and your lover take a weekend trip, do you discuss it openly at lunch with your co-workers?"

"No."

"Do your co-workers discuss theirs?"

"Yes."

"Do you know the names and activities of your co-workers' families?"

"Some."

"Do they even know you have a lover?"

"No. Except one woman."

"Do you put yours and your lover's picture on your desk?"

"No."

"Do you bring your lover, the most significant person in your life, to the parties to which you are invited?"

"Only to gay parties."

"Are you and your lover unmarried by choice?"

"No."

"Do you ever change the gender of your pronouns when you discuss your lover so nobody will know he's a man?"

"Yes."

"Why?"

"Because I want to keep my job. I want to live."

"And that's what you call free?"

Many Blacks in the South grew so accustomed to the racist status quo that they were afraid of the disruption of change, no matter how just. Likewise, many in the gay, lesbian, and bisexual community have grown so used to the lies and evasions to be safe that they do not even recognize how much privilege is reserved for heterosexuals only.



There may not be signs reading "hetero" and "homo" over the drinking fountains, but the subtlety of our exclusion does not make it any less real or any less dehumanizing.

The recent controversy over President Clinton's promise to end the ban on gays in the military is one prominent example of just how threatening to heterosexual privilege our search for equal rights is.

The "compromise" that Clinton struck with Congress would be laughed out of Washington if it were applied to any other minority. Can anyone rationally imagine telling women or Blacks or Latinos that they can join the military as long as they vow to remain celibate for their entire careers or risk a witch hunt and subsequent discharge?

Why then do we accept such a travesty being applied to gays, lesbians and bisexuals? Would any government official sign an official policy which tells a Black officer that she may not participate in a march for her civil rights, in or out of uniform, or that she cannot refer to herself as Black except to a chaplain, doctor or counsellor? Why is it okay to say that to us?

What about the tacit acceptance of prostitution as a necessity for the boys overseas and the tolerance of activities like the Tailhook convention. Yet in this atmosphere, a simple act of holding hands by gay soldiers could lead to harassment, the end of careers or even death? How wide a disparity do we need before we cry foul collectively with the assurance of the justice of our position?

And what of marriage? Out of the hundreds of countries in the world, there are only two that allow same gender couples to marry. Yet when heterosexuals marry, they do not simply receive official recognition of their coital bonding.

Here in the United States as in many places in the world,in that one ceremony they are granted automatic legal rights: community property, contractual security, child custody, joint adoption, joint tax privileges, hospital visitation, power of attorney, spousal support, inheritance: and many other "special rights."

It would take a gay or lesbian couple tens of thousands of dollars and many years to secure, contract by contract, a small number of the rights afforded straights with the utterance of those simple words, "I do." And many of those rights are not available to us for any price.

In Richmond Virginia a lesbian mother, Sharon Bottoms, is fighting for custody of her two year old son. Her mother has won custody of the child on the grounds that Sharon's lesbianism makes her an unfit mother.

That the courts are even entertaining the idea of giving custody to a non-parent on such grounds is a testament to the pervasiveness of heterosexual privilege.

This case is no aberration. Such battles go on often across the land of the free, and until recently, gays and lesbians usually lost. Sharon's life partner, April Wade, is of course not even considered as having a right to custody, let alone the right to defend it.

If this were a heterosexual couple, the outcry would be deafening. Today it was a short paragraph on page A8 of the *Sacramento Bee*. Even that is progress over the recent past.

Even without children or marriage, gay relationships are not afforded the same rights as heterosexual relationships. Nowhere in the United States do heterosexuals risk going to jail for engaging in sexual relations. In just under half of the states, however, homosexual sex is forbidden by law. When the matter came before the Supreme Court in Bowers vs. Hardwick, the

continued on page 26

the latest NEWS BITS

Lesbian Loses Custody Case

RICHMOND, Va. - A lesbian is unfit to be a mother, a judge ruled Sept. 7 allowing a woman to retain custody of her homosexual daughter's 2-year-old son.

Judge Buford Parsons ruled just half an hour after the close of daylong hearing in which the grandmother and mother testified.

The grandmother, Kay Bottoms, had argued that the boy could grow up not knowing the difference between men and women if he were returned to Sharon Bottoms and her lover, April Wade. The daughter testified that she herself was harmed by years of sexual abuse form her mother's live-in boyfriend.

Parsons, a Henrico County Circuit Court judge, deemed that Sharon Bottoms' relationship with her live-in partner "renders her an unfit parent." He also noted that Sharon Bottoms openly admitted to engaging in oral sex, a felony in Virginia. " In the opinion of this court, her conduct is immoral," Parsons said.

Donald Butler, Sharon Bottoms' lawyer, said the decision will be appealed. He said the judge set a dangerous precedent by taking a child away from his mother without showing that her behavior causes harm. Liz Hendrickson, executive director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights in San Francisco, called it "clearly a decision just based on bigotry."

Sacramento Bee

Gay Group Recognized by UN

The United Nations has granted "roster consultative status" to the International Lesbian and Gay Association.

The unprecedented move which allows the international advocacy group to submit papers to the UN on issues concerning the worldwide lesbian and gay community is a large stride for international rights.

Twenty-two out of 43 nations--including the United States--voted in favor of the move, while four voted against and 17 abstained.

The approval for consultative status represents a compromise victory, however. ILGA had requested approval for a "category II" status, which would have allowed the group to speak before the UN as well as submit papers.

Southern Voice

Serial Killer in New York City?

The discovery of the dismembered remains of a New York man in two different suburban locations has prompted fears that serial killer may be targeting gay and bisexual men in the New York area.

A volunteer fire fighter discovered plastic bags containing parts of Michael Sakara's body near Stony Point, a week after the man's head and hands were found stuffed in a garbage can.

Several other men have been killed in similar fashion in New Jersey, Pennsylvania and upstate New York.

In an effort to increase community vigilance, the Gay & Lesbian Anti-Violence Project has joined forces with police.

Southern Voice

Gay Brazilian Granted Asylum

An immigration judge has granted a gay Brazilian man political asylum in the United States because he faces anti-gay persecution in his homeland. An attorney for Marcelo Tenorio hailed the ruling as ground breaking protection for other foreign gays fearing persecution.

Tenorio came to the United States in 1990, eight years after he was stabbed and badly beaten outside a Rio de Janeiro gay bar. He was arrested by Immigration and Naturalization Service authorities last year. The INS may appeal the ruling.

Gay Cop Returns to Police Force

A gay policeman who won a harassment suit returned to work, vowing times have changed for the Los Angeles Police Department, and announcing a recruitment program for gay officers. "I'm not going to tolerate anything like I did for 3 1/2 years," said Sgt. Mitchell Grobeson. "Anything happens, I'm going to advise the chief. And the chief is not going to tolerate it. I guarantee it." Police Chief Willie Williams succeeded Daryl Gates last year, promising to fight discrimination of any kind.

Grobeson joined the department in 1981 and was harrassed by his fellow officers when his sexual orientation was revealed. He resigned, sued and won a $770,000 settlement in February.

Washington Blade

Release Study say Senators

Eight Democratic senators are urging the Pentagon to release an independent study that they say finds "no substantive basis" for keeping the ban on gays serving openly in the military.

Signing the letter were Sens. Tom Harkin, Barbara Boxer, Dianne Feinstein, Howard Metzenbaum, Carol Moseley-Braun, Russell Feingold, Paul Wellstone and Patty Murray.

The $1.3 million study was conducted by the Rand Corporation, and insiders who have seen it say that it "casts serious doubt on the wisdom of adopting" President Clinton's compromise policy.

Questioned about the lawmaker's call, Pentagon spokeswoman Kathleen deLaski said the military did plan to eventually release the study.

Cobb County to be Anti-Gay

MARIETTA, Ga.-- The Board of Commissioners in Cobb County, a conservative area near Atlanta, passed a resolutionon August 10 condemning homosexuality; it is expected to pass a measure soon to restrict funding for arts projects that feature Gays.

The resolution and proposed measure stem from complaints by two county residents about a play performed by two county residents about a play performed in Cobb County. The play, "Lips Together, Teeth Apart," by openly Gay playwright Terrance McNally, is set

continued on page 11

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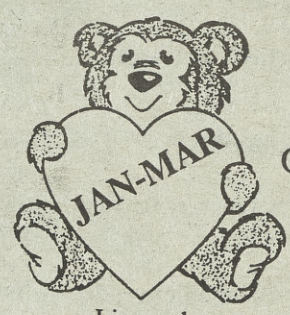
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NEWSBITS

continued from page 10

in a gay resort but it has no gay characters, according to wire reports.

Following passage of the anti-gay resolution, about 800 people attended the first two public hearings about the proposal to posal to restrict county arts funding from projects considered contrary to "community and family-oriented standards."

Washington Blade

Mayor Pulls Bigot from Panel

SAN FRANCISCO - San Francisco Mayor Frank Jordan has removed the Rev. Eugene Lumpkin from the Human Rights Commision after the embattled minister said he agreed with a biblical passage that says men should be stoned to death for having sex with one another.

"It is intolerable, indefensible, and inexcusable for anyone in San Francisco - a city that is struggling to free itself of hate crimes-- to be associated with statements, be they biblical or otherwise, which justify violence," the mayor said in a statement following Lumpkin's remarks.

"In refusing to resign, Rev. Lumpkin has left me no other alternative but to remove him from the Human Rights Commission," Jordan said in a press release afterwards. "This is an action I regret to take because Rev. Lumpkin has a long history of public service. However, no person will be allowed to serve in my administration whose actions may be interpreted by some to encourage violence or give support to others who seek to justify their hatred."

Washington Blade

New Film by Crazed Coalition

The Traditional Values Coalition, unveiled the latest anti-gay videotape during a press conference at the National Press Club July 27.

The 40 minute tape, Gay Rights/Special Rights, is unique among the genre in that it sports interviews with high profile politicians, such as former Attorney General Edwin Meese, former Education Secretary William Bennett, and current U.S. Sen. Trent Lott (R-Miss.)

The key focus of this video is a comparison between the civil rights movements of blacks and gays (which are almost exclusively depicted as white). Although the video has no prominent black politicians being interviewed, it has several black TVC associates criticizing gays for trying to capitalize on the civil rights work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. It also interviews a Latino school board member in California and the head of a group called the Chinese Family Alliance, both of whom criticize gays for trying to "hijack" the 1964 federal Civil Rights Act.

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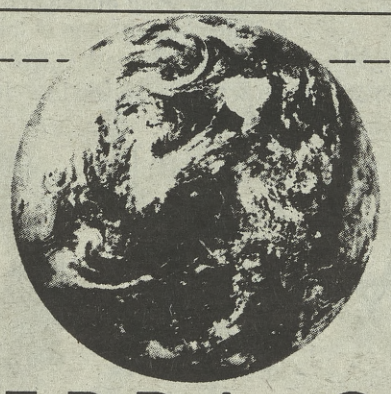
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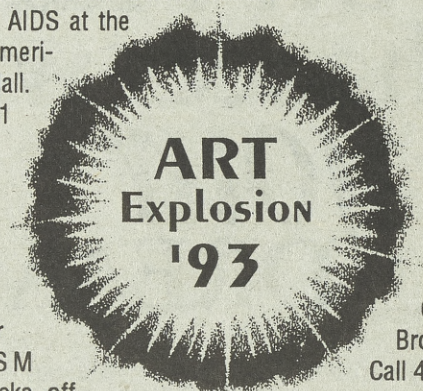
September

15 wednesday

The Lesbian and Gay Business Alliance Meeting at 7 pm at Carrow's Restaurant on 28th & J Streets.

17 friday

Art Explosion '93', an art & entertainment festival to benefit "CCIA" Care of Children Impacted by AIDS at the Fort Sutter American Legion Hall. Call 446-1051 for more info. **Sept. 17-18**



"Bound by Serenity 1993"- Clean & sober Leather/SM weekend- kicks off S.F. Leather Week. Call (415) 764-2990 for information. **Sept. 17 - 19**

"Bent" a play written by Martin Sherman, performed by the Lambda Players at the YWCA at 17th and L Streets. Call 442-7752 for ticket info. **Sept. 17 - Oct. 16**

Talent Contest presented by Jammin' Jo at the Camellia Room, 2722 L Street. Doors open at 8 p.m., show at 9p.m.

18 saturday

Jamie Anderson, comic, singer, songwriter will perform for the women of SACWN at the Sierra 2 Community Center. Call 451-8034 for more info.

Leathertrek: SLA Bus Trip to S.F.- Int'l Cheeks and Chaps Contest at the Eagle.

19 sunday

12th Annual Gay & Lesbian Sports Day on Angel Island. Call (415) 435-1915 for info.



Gay & Lesbian Day at Raging Waters to benefit Aris Project, Santa Clara. For info. call 1-800-473-8658.

Ducal Investiture at Sierra Inn. For more info call Steve at Faces, 448-7798.

Valley Bears get together at Cheyennes's Silver Spur, 2721 Broadway, Sac. from 3 pm to 7 pm. Call 456-2437 for info.

21 tuesday

Lesbian/Gay and Bisexual Pride Parade Planning Meeting at the Town House, 7 p.m.

23 thursday

Gay Roller Skating at foothill Skate Inn, 4700 Auburn Blvd., Sacramento. A benefit for SAGA (Sacramento Area Games Association.) Call 635-1535 for information.

24 friday

Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt comes to the Sacramento Community Center. Call 448-2437 for info. **Sept. 24 - 26**

Women's Weekend at Guernville. Call 707-869-9009 or 1-800-253-8800 for info. **Sept. 24 - 26**

25 saturday

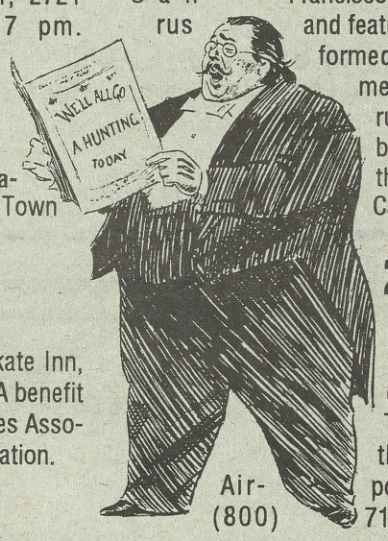
3rd Annual Youth Picnic, at William Land Park. Food at 4:30, music starts at 6 p.m. Corner of Sutterville and Freeport Blvd.

Joyful Loving mini-workshop at Women's Weekend in Guerneville. 10-12 a.m. Contact Kate MacKenzie to register 447-0350.

Stanislaus County AIDS Walk. Call (209) 476-8533 for info.

GSAC Movie Night at 7 pm. $2 nonmembers. Call 422-5049.

Sacramento Men's Chorus presents "Hidden Legacies" a concert performed by the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus and featuring music performed by the Sacramento Men's Chorus. Performance begins at 8 pm at the Crest Theater. Call 444-5213.



Air- (800)

26 sunday

Stud Search '94 - man of the year contest held at The Host Hotel at the Sacramento port at 8 pm. Call 710-STAR for info.

Folsom Street Fair on Folsom Street from 7th to 12th St., San Francisco.

Chico Freedom Fest '93 at the Chico C.A.R.D. Center off Vallenbrosa from 11 am - 6 pm. Call (916) 342-6237 for information.

27 monday

Forum on Bisexuality 7-9 pm at the Metropolitan Community Church, organized by SLCC. For info. call 441-7962.

29 wednesday

Jewish Lesbian/Gay and Bisexual Group. "Growing Up Jewish and Gay" is this month's topic. Call Ellie at 334-0667 for info.

30 thursday

The U2 Experience performed by the Dale School Dance/Art at the 24th Street Theater. Call 483-4017 for info. **Sept. 30 - Oct. 9**



Tito Puente performs at U C Davis. Call 757-3199 for information.

Lavender Waves Lesbians in Recovery Retreat the 5th annual drug and alcohol free retreat. Call 503-563-3643 for information. **Sept. 30 - Oct. 3**

1 friday

Publication party for Dell Richards new book, "Superstars: Twelve Lesbians Who Changed the World" at Muffins, Etc., 5635 H Street, Sacramento, 7-9 pm.

June and Jean Millington at the Palms, 8:30 p.m. Celebration of thier new album "Ticket to Wonderful." $10 advance, $11 door. Call 1-756-9901 for details.

2 saturday

Animal Liberation Day. Attend the rally, march, Call 922-0570 for info.



October

3 sunday

Castro Street Fair on Castro Street S.F. Call 415-467-3354 for info. October 7

Learning Exchange Volunteer Fair, recruit high quality volunteers at the Tuesday Club, Sac. from 5:30 - 8 pm. Call 929-9200 for info.

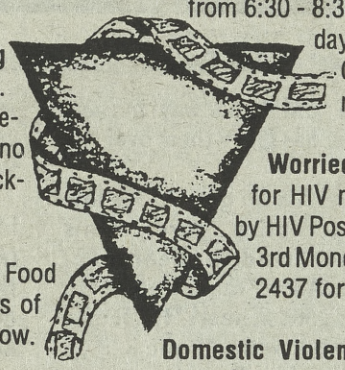
8 friday

2nd Annual Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Film Festival at the Crest Theater. Call 482-6397 for info. **October 8 - 9**

Sacramento Symphony launches its new season, call 449-6950 for ticket info.

OutWrite 93, Subversion, Perversion, Inversion - Queer Writers' version of the world. Boston, Massachusetts. Call (617) 482-4042.

9 saturday



Art for AIDS - Breaking Boundries, 1 Capitol Mall, 6 p.m. reception. Photography and design benefitting the Sacrametno AIDS Foundation 448-2437. Tickets $25.

Himovitz Gallery presents a Food and Wine Show with the works of Roxanne O'Brien and Al Farrow. 1020 10th Street.

10 sunday

RCDC Annual Awards Dinner at the Radisson Hotel, 6 p.m. Tickets are $45 per person Call 731-5648 for more details.

11 monday

National Coming Out Day

12 tuesday

Gay Dads of Sacramento a support group for dads who are gay. To discuss parenting relationships, and orientation issues to find out more information call 924-DADS. Meets 2nd Sunday of every month.

Lesbian Couples Conscious Loving Group at 7 pm. Class meets for 8 sessions at $25 per session. Call Kate MacKenzie @ 447-0350.

16 saturday



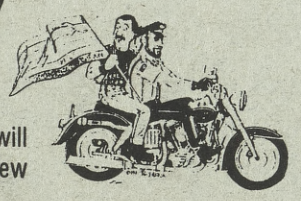
Blisters for Sister's Fun Run starting in Old Sacramento. Call 558-3912 for more details.

Free Seminar on how to get pre-approved to buy a home at the Lambda Center, 1931 L Street from 10 am to 1pm. Call 328-8898 for info.

24 sunday

"A Discussion With Mario Cuomo" at UC Davis. For more info call 752-1915.

29 friday



Creator of "Leonard and Larry" comics -- Tim Barela will be signing his new collection of comics at Beyond the Pale from 5 - 8 p.m.

30 saturday

Erotic Art Ball at the Eastern Star Temple. Call Big Art for more info. at 446-2740.

MONDAYS

Survivors of Sexual Abuse women's group from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. every other Monday, also Tuesday nights. Call 783-0563 for information.

Worried Well Support Group, for HIV negative people effected by HIV Positive loved ones. 1st and 3rd Mondays. 6:30 p.m. Call 448-2437 for details.

Domestic Violence, a drop-in support group for men and women at the Lambda Community Center 7 - 8:30 p.m. Call 442-0185 for information.

Men's Coming Out Group at the Lambda Center, 1931 L Street. Call 442-0185 for details.

Lesbian and Gay Town Council, 2nd Monday of each month. Call 448-0422 for info.

TUESDAYS

Gay & Lesbian Film Festival organizing committee meets at the Lambda Center at 5:30. Call 482-6397 for info.



Being Gay Today, 10 p.m. on cable 18. An hour of lesbian and gay programming.

Heart to Heart, a HIV+ support group for gay and bi-men to talk about emotions. 6:30 - 8 p.m. 920 20th Street. Call 448-2437 for info.

Sacramento Leather Association, at the Wreck Room, 7 p.m. First Tuesday of each month. For info. call 863-3398.

WEDNESDAYS

Sacramento Area Gay and Lesbian Educators (SAGLE) meets the 2nd Wednesday each month. Starts at 6 pm (social) & 7 pm (business). Call 456-1610 for information.

THURSDAYS

HIV/AIDS Family Support /Group on the first and third Thursdays at the Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer, 4641 Marconi Ave. For information call 483-5691.

CODA is a fellowship of gay men + women who seek recovery from disfunctional relationships through 12-step principles. Meets 7:30 p.m. Every Thursday at Lambda Community Center. 1931 L Street.

Rainbow Real Estate Professionals meets on the first Thursday of each month at 11:30 a.m. at the Hungry Hunter, 450 Bercut Drive, Sacramento. For information call 921-6642.

Women's Coming Out Group meets from 6-7:30 at the Lambda Community Center, 1931 L Street. Call 442-0185 for more information.

FRIDAYS

Poker Club, Lesbian Couples Over 35. 1st & 3rd Friday of each month. Call K or J at 649-1182.

Youth Group at Lambda Community Center at 5:45 p.m. for gay, lesbian, and bi youth under age 21. Call Christopher at 442-0185 for information.

SATURDAYS

FrontRunners, a lesbian and gay running club. Meet at 9 am at Guy West Bridge opposite Sac State on University Ave side. Call Jim at 387-8275.

Different Spokes Sacramento, a lesbian and gay bicyling club meets at 9 am at McKinley Park at the Northeast end by the Tennis Courts.

SUNDAYS

Dignity/Sacramento meets at 6 pm on the 2nd Sunday of the month. Call 443-8084 for information.

Women of Color Support Group, every Sunday, 7:15 - 9 p.m. Lambda Center 1931 L Street. Call 442-0185 for info.

Plan-It In Advance

To list your events in the Daily Plan-it, send a brief description of the event along with any graphic images you may have before the 5th of each month to: **the latest ISSUE** P.O. Box 160584 Sacramento, CA 95816.

the latest ENTERTAINMENT

'Twilight of the Golds' - Finally a Family Drama

by **Chris Olsen**

The only son of the Gold family serves as our narrator for this timely and controversial play. David Gold is your average only son. He is Jewish, gay, and a New York opera set designer. He has a family that accepts him.

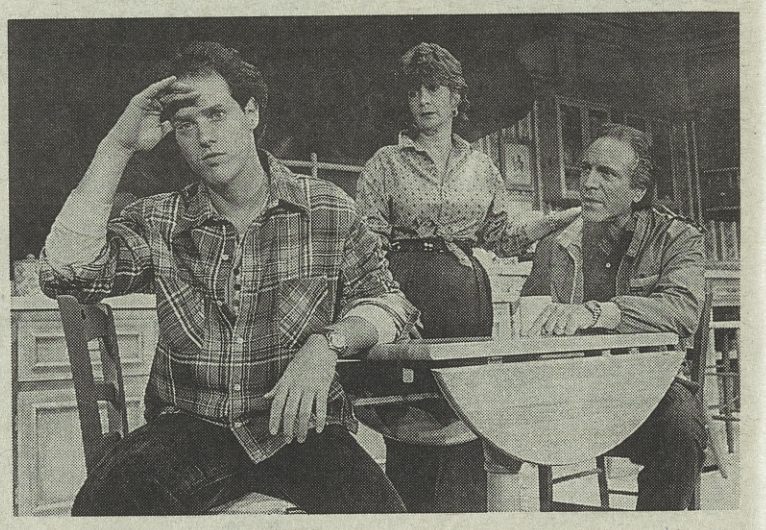
On the night of his only sister Suzanne's (Jennifer Grey) wedding anniversary his world is forever changed. She announces that she is pregnant and immediately her bio-technic husband Rob (Michael Spours), insists that she have a new fangled test that his lab has devised to determine the health of the child. The results: a healthy male child with ten fingers and ten toes, but, he carries the "gay gene."

Playwright Jonathon Tolins allows the audience to witness the events through David's eyes.

With the wave of a hand and some amazing theatrical magic the Manhattan apartment becomes a cliff in a Wagnerian opera. This new backdrop allows light and color to reveal the characters' emotions and subtext. The use of Wagners' music also serves as a line of sight into these seemingly one dimensional characters.

"Twilight of the Golds" is a controversial new play in the tradition of Arthur Miller and Eugene O'Neil, with a dash of magic. Tolins uses recent scientific information regarding the encoding of sexual orientation in human DNA to unleash a new method of discourse surrounding moral and ethical questions.

The parents, Suzanne and Rob, debate abortion. David confronts his sister by telling her that if she kills this child she is killing him, and now there just might be someone to enjoy opera and Broadway musical CDs he has given them over the years.



The cast of "The Twilight of the Golds."

When David goes to his loving, accepting, parents; his mother (Judith Scarpone) quotes Anne Frank, "People are truley good at heart." His father retaliates with, "I think if it were an illness I would want you cured, but it is not and we still love you."

What Tolins has created, like his contemporary Tony Kushner (Angels in America) is a play that deals not with queens, queers or faggots, but with individuals who are a family unit.

Tolins allows the audience to experience an intimate family debate in order to focus public discourse around issues such as abortion, discrimination, homophobia, unconditional love and family values.

"Twilight of the Golds" holds you to tight to the stage. It makes you laugh and cry and knows just when to make you laugh again.

With the exception of J. Grey's disappointing neurotic interpretation of the sister, the cast is more than able.

"Twilight of the Golds" runs through Sept. 19 at the Marines Memorial Theatre, in San Francisco.

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Powerful Statements Made in the 'Band'

by **Chris Narloch**

One of the most shattering moments in the new film version of Randy Shilts' book "And The Band Played On" contains the famous speech by an AIDS patient who pleads with lawmakers not to allow him to die "of red tape."

Shilts couldn't possibly have known that by the time his amazing book finally got filmed, he would come down with the very disease he chronicled so brilliantly.

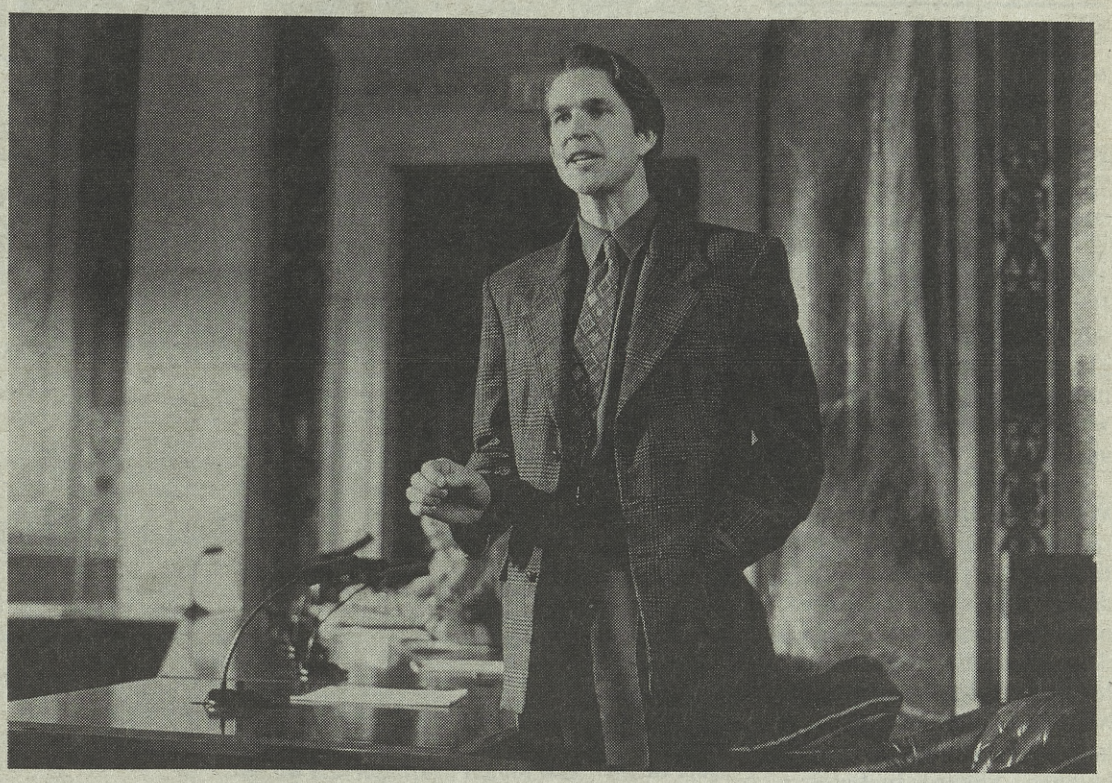
Happily, the long-awaited movie Shilts lived to see is a staggering achievement, a virtual history of the disease in 2 1/2 hours that is at once intelligent, informative and emotionally raw. Simply put it's one of the most important movies ever made for television.

What's remarkable is how one book got so many details just right, down to the pandora's box of cruel ironies that marked the early years of the AIDS epidemic: from gays fighting for the right to kill themselves by keeping the bathhouses open to some less than noble doctors more concerned with glory than with saving lives. The miracle is that the movie gets most of the details right, too, and with a cast, script and direction that are phenomenal.

Mathew Modine plays the central role of Don Francis, the virologist who was one of the first to recognize the proportions of the disease, and while he wouldn't have been my first choice for the part, he grows in stature as the movie progresses. Luckily the film has the great Ian McKellen in the crucial role of Bill Kraus, the gay activist who fought to close the gay bathhouses. He is pitted against Phil Collins, who more than holds his own as the slimy opportunist who fights to keep the baths open.

Surprisingly, the all-star cast is never distracting because, for the most part, they have short, vivid scenes, and because the characters they play are real people. Among the best are Alan Alda as a researcher obsessed with taking credit for discovering the AIDS virus; Richard Gere as a Michael Bennet-like choreographer who succumbs to the disease; Swoosie Kurtz as a women who contracts AIDS from a blood transfusion; Steve Martin as a prominent San Francisco man determined to hide the fate of his dead brother; and Lily Tomlin, as the wry public official who convinced experts that AIDS is an STD.

HBO should be applauded for taking a chance on a risky, uncommercial project like this.



Mathew Modine plays Don Francis, one of the first virologists to recognize the proportions of AIDS.

The movie is uncompromising in its attack on conservative politics during the Reagan era, and it also presents a touching gay subplot between the couple played by Ian McKellen and B.D. Wong. These are major advances for a cable movie.

How refreshing to see a story where the doctors are the good guys (for the most part.) The pained faces of the doctors here tell the real story. While the right-wingers and the politicians set up stumbling blocks, there are still silent heroes around the world trying their best to beat this thing. "And The Band Played On" is for them.

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Music Perfect For a Memorable Evening

by **Bill Peterson**

Sheena Easton - "No Strings"

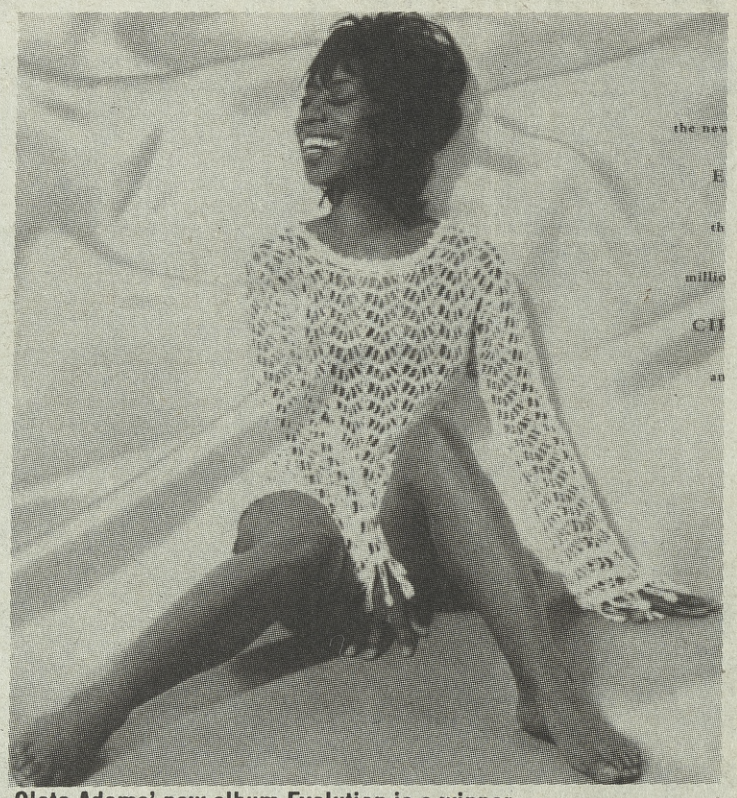
Having milked the Prince pop-slut genre dry and with her "Bounce a quarter on my tummy" workout on clearance at Target, little lass Sheena seems to have noticed that Harry Connick Jr. has been wildly successful reheating the glamorous forties big band formula and thus we are presented with Easton's foray into lounge vocals.

The lead-off, "Someone to Watch Over Me," was actually featured in a TV show earlier this year with Sheena playing a dowdy housewife with great pipes that mesmerize Hal Linden. Due to the endless accolades that appearance must have garnered, coupled with her dwindling checking account balance, Sheena includes a bunch of chestnuts from the same era and voila! a potential comeback!

Imagine the surprise at finding that this is a most impressive album! Although there are a few moments where she sounds like a stereotypical swingin' Vegas lounge lizard, for the most part, Easton can do this jazz thing pretty well.

On Jacques Brel's "If You Go Away" (Ne Me Quitte Pas), her sultry, plaintive vocals and the understated, mournful horns make for a downright stirring five minutes. Elsewhere, she tackles "Body and Soul," "The Nearness of You" and "Little Girl Blue" with an unexpectedly subdued sophistication.

Produced by R&B artist Patrice Rushen ("Forget Me Nots"), the arrangements stay away from the overblown big band presentation, fitting into a cozier, jazz lounge mode. Oh, and I must say, Sheena looks absolutely ravishing in her retro ball gown photos! *** 1/2



Oleta Adams' new album Evolution is a winner.

Oleta Adams- Evolution:

Four years on from her stirring debut on Tears for Fear's "Woman in Chains," Oleta returns with her second solo album, which attempts to balance between pop accessibility and Anita Baker's (and now, Sheena Easton) styled jazz.

Oleta's strength is still in the slow tempo gospel-tinged ballad, of which there are several strong examples-- her cover of Billy Joel's "New York State of Mind" her own "My Heart Won't Lie" and "I just Had to Hear Your Voice."

As on her "Circle of One" debut, Adams songs have a sweet sound to take the edge off the tales of less than perfect love -- "When I'm with you, baby, I'm a chameleon/ I'm a master of disguise/ Foolin' everyone about my feelings."

Even when Adams perks things up, as on the closing "Window of Hope" there's a bittersweet tale to be told "You've been pickin' at the scabs of some old wounds/Cuddling up to sorrow like it's your best friend."

"Evolution," like its predecessor, is an album that takes time to fully appreciate, but after a few listens, warms you up, just like a fine glass of wine. ****

Ren & Stimpy- You Eediot!

So, the lights are down, the candles burning low and the Sheena and Oleta discs have already been played. To cap off the perfect romantic evening, slip on this little nugget, which is sure keep you both in that soulful mood.

My first suggestion would be the touching "Don't Whiz on the Electric Fence" or the tender "Kilted Yaksmen Anthem" with the help from members of the Gay Men's Chorus in L.A.- (and you can sing along- to the melody of "My Country Tis of Thee") "Our country reeks of trees/ Our yaks are really large/ And they smell like rotting beef carcasses."



Ren and Stimpy.

When our little pals aren't singing, the music as played by Screamin' Lederhosen, swings along, as on the old Slinky ad -- "What rolls down stairs/ Alone or in pairs/ Rolls over your neighbor's dog/ What's great for a snack/ And fits on your back? It's Log! Log! Log!"

Finally, Ren & Stimpy's album has something that the upcoming Beavis & Butthead album won't have -- the classic "Happy, Happy, Joy Joy". Sadly, without the visual accompaniment, there's not a lot of real fun to be had here after one playing. *

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that GALLERY GUIDE!

Galleries-A-Go-Go

Archival Framing: 1729 L Street. (916) 444-9624. "Paintings and Drawings by Corey Okada, through Oct. 1 "Sight-Bytes, Abstarction Continuing into the 90's" Group Exhibition, Oct. 3 - Oct. 29 Reception Sat. Oct. 9 7-9 p.m.

Big Art: 1928 L Street. (916) 446-2740. Paul Richards and Vince Walker through Oct. 1. "Erotic Ball" Oct. 30.

The Michael Himovitz Gallery: 1020 10th Street (916) 448-8723.

The Anya Horvath Gallery: 4399 Arden Way, (916) 488-1901. Robert Pengelly and James Torlakson Through Oct. 2.

The Judith Weintraub Gallery: 1723 J Street (916) 442-3360. "Some Light on the World" by Brenda Louie Through Oct. 2. Kent Fries and Craig Smith Oct. 6 through Nov. 6 Reception Sat. Oct. 9, 5 - 8 p.m.

"Chalk It Up Sacramento" Over 100 sidewalk painting done by local artists. On the sidewalk surrounding Fremont Park (15th & P St).

The Lite Rail Gallery: 912 12th Street (916) 441-1013. Al Pierson and Max White Through Oct. 8.

Gallery W: 901 W Street (916) 444-5125. "Portraits of the Human Heart"by Tim Timmerman, through Oct. 3.

The Center for Contemporary Art: 1116 15 th Street (916) 448-6269.

In the Window Gallery: Craig Smith's "Flooded Road with Large Blue Coffee" Through Oct. 15, Reception Sat. Sept 18, 6-8 pm. "Okaeshi at the Potlatch" with James Susuki. Group Exhibition Sept. 18 - Oct. 24 Reception: Sat. Sept. 18, 6-8 pm.
Dean Moniz Gallery: 1825 Q Street (916) 448-4039. "New Work" by Urban-o. Sept. 11 thru Oct. 2. "Recent Works" by Gary Viviano September 11 thru Oct. 2.

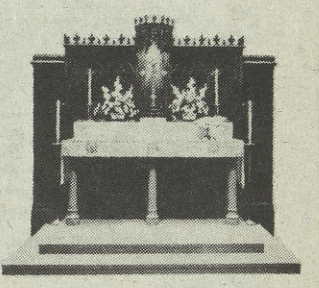
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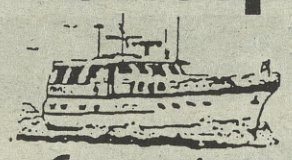
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Our Loves, Our Lives, Our Power, Our Films

by **Chris Narloch**

River City will host its second annual Gay and Lesbian Film Festival October 8th and 9th at the Crest. After the sold-out success of last year's virgin effort, organizers have boldly expanded to two days and the calendar of events gives every indication they have avoided a sophomore slump.

From lesbian vampires to disco boys, to more serious efforts about racism and about AIDS, there appears to be something to please every non-hater's palette in this year's festival of shorts.

You'll laugh, you'll cry (and your money will help benefit a number of local gay organizations.) Here's a rundown on what to expect:

"The Disco Years" -- Robert Lee King's witty tale of one boy's coming-out may prove to be this year's "Dead Boy's Club" (the hit of last year's fest.) "The Disco Years" is a clever coming of age story about a lonely high school boy who has a fling with the blond stud on his tennis team. When his lover deserts him and mom flips out, he finds solace at the local disco (in true 70's fashion.)

"Storme: The Lady of the Jewel Box" -- A portrait of Storme deLarverie, former MC and male impersonator with the legendary Jewel Box Revue (America's first integrated female impersonation show.) This moving documentary is one of two tributes to lesbian musicians in the 1993 fest a nostalgic valentine to a simpler time. Storme was a cross-dressing lesbian singer decades before Madonna.



A scene from "Because the Dawn," that will show at the festival.

"True Blue" -- In this surreal comedy, a lesbian's nightmare is realized when she becomes pregnant after a one-night stand with her ex-boyfriend. Bay Area director/comic Maureen Brownsey will answer questions at the opening night reception after the films.

"Loverville" & Loverville 2: The Honeymoon" -- Two brief and bitchy comedies in which a single gay man chronicles the sexual relationship of his horny housemates using condoms as finger puppets. Sarcasm makes up for lack of any budget whatsoever in this short, which should strike a chord with anyone who has ever endured cuddle-bunny roommates. Director Bhodan Zachary and star Scott Capurro will be on hand for the fest.

continued on next page

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The vividly printed 4-color shirt was printed in memory of Frank Johnson's son Greg, who died of AIDS in March. Make a statement to the world that you are making a difference in the battle against AIDS.

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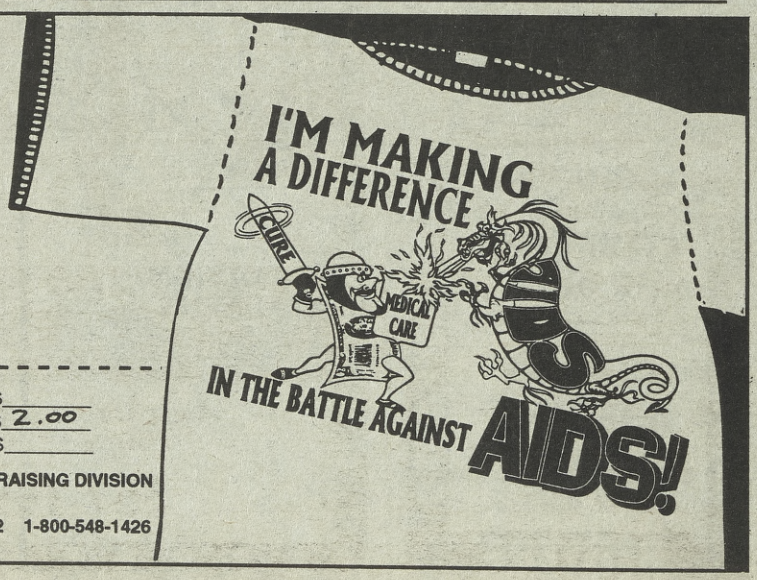
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FILMS

continued from page 18

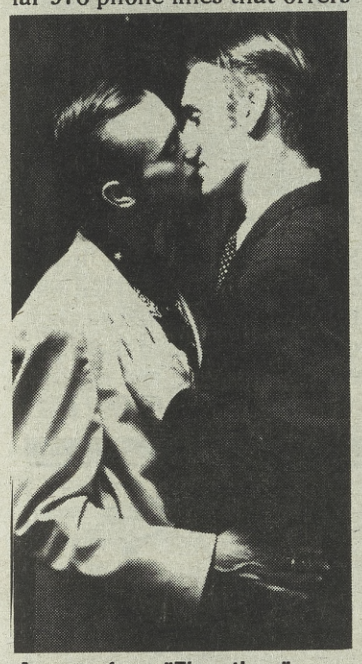
"Elevation" -- Two handsome men meet and exchange social signals in an endlessly interrupted elevator ride.

"Alfalfa" -- This award-winning British film is a catalog of the "Queen's English": an alternative alphabet of gay slang. C is for Clone, H is for Heaven, R is for Rim, etc. Learning your abc's was never this much fun.

"Because The Dawn" -- A modern day vampire musical comedy film noir(!) This upbeat tale of female desire is a contemporary story of obsession and transformation with a swing beat.

"A Comedy in Six Unnatural Acts" -- A relentless parody of lesbian stereotypes played out in a series of episodes as Hollywood might see them.

"976" -- A spoof on the familiar 976 phone lines that offers



A scene from "Elevation."

a creative alternative to phone sex.

"Dreams of Passion" -- A dancer's daydream and desire find fulfillment in this seduction set to music.

"Le Corps Image" -- Men merge with women and women merge with men in an orgy of images projected onto bodies.

"A Moffie called Simon" -- Simon Nkodi is a Black gay activist and South African student leader. This compact, instructive political dramatization

continued on page 24

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RUMOR HAS IT

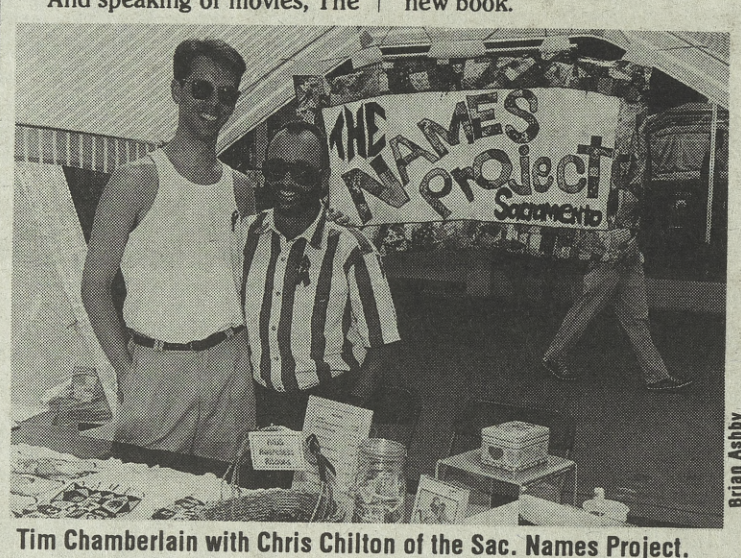
So have you heard? **Amanda Bearse**, who plays the all-American girl next door on "Married...With Children," is a lesbian! In an interview with ***The Advocate***, Bearse discusses her life with her lover and their new baby, **Zoe**. She decided to come out after years of tabloid articles hinting at her sexual orientation. "The outing really was quite a freeing experience," she said.

Also interviewed in ***The Advocate***, **Melissa Etheridge** related coming out to "finally registering your car." She said, "When it's not registered, you're always worried that every cop...is going to bust you." Guess her car is registered and running smoothly now!

Here at home, **Marjorie Friese** has sent press releases to all the local papers announcing her homosexuality. Friese, a divorced mother of six, calls her new-found lesbianism "deliciously freeing" and "the ultimate birth control."

The recent screening of **"And the Band Played On"** at the **Crest Theatre** was a huge success! The sold-out event, which was underwritten by HBO and the California Cable Commission, raised **$24,000 for CARES.**

And speaking of movies, The **2nd Annual Gay & Lesbian Film Festival** hits town October 8th and 9th. Remember, the film festival sold out last year, so be sure to buy your tickets in advance. **Gifted Gardener, Lioness Books,** and the **Lambda Center** are among those selling tickets.



Brian Ashby

Tim Chamberlain with Chris Chilton of the Sac. Names Project.

In another art medium, **Tim Barela**, creator of the gay **Leonard and Larry** comic strip will be at **Beyond the Pale** on October 29, to sign copies of his new book.

A publishing party for **Dell Richards** will be held October 1 at **Muffins, Etc.** Richards, a local author, just completed "Superstars: Twelve Lesbians who Changed the World."

Among these happy artists celebrating their creativity, is one very angry poet who was recently silenced. **Michael Gorman** decided to participate in downtown Sacramento's Poets on the Plaza, held Thursday nights on the mall. But when he began reading his gay-themed poem, a policeman pulled the plug on his microphone. The officer offered no explanation for his action.

The new **Barnes and Noble** bookstore in the Arden shopping center has an immense gay and lesbian book selection, thanks to **Shannon Wong-Lerner.** It seems Shannon has put a lot of energy into making the gay section something to be proud of.

Question: What do Bud Light, high heels, ladies' night, and drag queens all have in common? Answer: Budweiser's new television commercial. Look for it!

What a Drag! No, it's not just the sentiment expressed at the end of summer, it's the name of a brand new business. Established by former-Sacramentan **Steven Crow**, What a Drag! offers a personalized, in-home source for wigs, shoes (up to size 15), and fashion accessories galore. For more information, call 800-900-DRAG. Really!

The **Duke and Duchess Ball**, held August 21, was a big success. At the well-attended event, **Paul and Alta** (at last!) were crowned Duke and Duchess for the year.

Also a new title-holder is **Calvin Lindberg, Mr. Sacramento Cheeks and Chaps 1993.** Calvin, along with two other male contestants, bared his buns in the competition at the **Wreck Room.** Asked why no women participated, an event organizer suggested that Jana, the current local and national



Kathleen at t-shirt contest.

continued on next page

2nd Annual Sacramento
GAY & LESBIAN FILM FESTIVAL
at
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(1013 K Street Mall)
October 8 & 9

Friday, Oct. 8th
GALA OPENING NIGHT
7:30 p.m. Film Program
10 p.m. Gala Reception
With Special Guests
Maureen Brownsey -Director of "True Blue"
Bohdan Zachary - Director of "Loverville I & II"
Ticket prices for Gala Reception
at A Shot of Class
and Friday Film Presentation $25

Saturday, Oct. 9th
2 p.m. Matinee
(mostly the same show as Friday night)
7 p.m. Evening Program
(all new show)

Tickets prices:
$6.00 general
$4.00 students and members
Tickets are available at:
The Lambda Center, 1931 L Street
Lioness Books, 2224 J Street
Sports Leisure Travel, 9527 Folsom Blvd.
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Call 863-3497 for more info

Special Offer:
Present your Film Festival Ticket at
A Shot of Class for 10% off any food order.
Offer not good with any other discounts, and only on the day of the show shown on ticket.

Profits from this event will benefit the Sacramento AIDS Foundation, Project Survival, The Lambda Community Fund
The Center for AIDS Research, Education and Services, and Lesbian & Gay Student Programming at CSUS
Funded by ASI (the activities and opinions of GLAS and Delta Lambda Phi are not necessarily those of Associated Students, Inc.)

RUMOR

continued from page 20

title-holder, is a hard ass to follow. Mmmmm-hmmmm!

And speaking of gorgeous



Brian Ashby restrained at the Rainbow Festival by SLA.

body parts, the wet t-shirt contest at the **Rainbow Festival** was a mega-hit! Decided by audience applause, **Kathleen** was enthusiastically named the winner of the many participants of every shape and size.

The **Rainbow Festival** was again a huge success! The street fair, sponsored by **Faces, Budweiser,** and **the latest ISSUE** was crowded with people enjoying the surprisingly mild summer day. Although no final figures have been released, rumor has it over $15,000 was raised for **Hope House** and the **Lambda Center.**

Red Shoes Travel, in association with **C.G.N.I.E.** has donated a 3-night trip to Cabo San Lucas to raise additional funds for the **Rainbow Festival.** Raffle tickets for the trip are being sold by C.G.N.I.E. members for $1. The winner's name will be drawn in October.

The **RCDC** AIDS Memorial Tree Grove needs help! There is now a charge for watering, and the grove at Highway 50 and Bradshaw is short on funds. If you would like to dedicate a tree or make a general donation, contact RCDC for information.

Portions of the **Names Project** quilt will be on display at the Sacramento Community Center the weekend of September 24. For those interested in creating a panel or getting more information about the quilt, a local Names Project organization is forming. Call **Michael Campbell** at CARES for details.

On September 27, **Sacramento Lesbians Creating Change** will host a forum on bisexuality at MCC. **Teresa Corrigan** of **Lioness Books** will facilitate what is sure to be an interesting event. All interested men and women are invited to participate.

October 10 is the date for RCDC's annual **Lambda Awards Dinner** at The Radisson Hotel. Why not plan to help celebrate the accomplishments of some of Sacramento's outstanding gay and lesbian community members?

A big congratulations to Lambda Community Center Board President **Marghe Covino** on her recent election to Sacramento's **NAACP** Board of Directors. Keep up the good work, Marghe!

If you are interested in contributing to the community, consider a position on the **Human Rights and Fair Housing** board. The City Clerk will be accepting applications from interested parties until October 8.

Birthdays, birthdays, birthdays! All those cold winter nights make for a bunch of fall babies. Happy birthday to **Anne of Bangs Hair Studio, P.J. Dunker,** and **Becca King.** Celebrating their birthdays while mourning their loss of youth are **Muriel L.** and **Dale Zeitler,** who both recently turned 30, and **Larry Maderos** who is turning 40. And happy anniversary



Brian Ashby

Richard Boriolo and Kevin Cohee work it at Festival.

to **Mike and Paul,** who are celebrating one whole year of wedded bliss!

Tom and Patrick have returned from Florida with a new resident in tow. Tom, Patrick, and **Joe** (the newcomer) were all spotted at **SAGA's** monthly gay roller skating party at Foothill Skate. Everyone is welcome at the party on wheels, so why not come to the next one September 23?

If you know **Sacramento Frontrunners' Walter Smith,** tell him he should "just do it!" Apparently Smith needs a bit of encouragement to accept the position of president for the upcoming term. So give him a push; everyone knows he'll do a great job!

So do you need a new pen for school? Or maybe a whole box of them for your office? **Pilot Ink Pens** are donating a part of every sale to **AMFAR,** an AIDS research organization founded by **Elizabeth Taylor.** So look for Pilot when you're buying pens.

Rumor has it, **the Mercantile Saloon** has the most eclectic jukebox music selection in town. Where else can you find **Doris Day's** "Dime A Dance" and **Nancy Sinatra's** "These Boots Were Made for Walking?" The Merc is a unique place indeed!

Olivia Records has announced the release of "Postcards from Paradise," a musical collaboration of **Cris Williamson and Tret Fure.** Call 800-631-6277 to order if you can't find it locally.

Well, **Delta Lambda Phi** has hit the big time! The gay fraternity was featured in an article in the September 30 issue of ***Rolling Stone*** magazine. **Chris Hunt,** president of the Washington, D.C. chapter of the six-year-old fraternity gave the magazine a dynamite interview.

And dontcha' forget, October 11 is **National Coming Out Day.** So if **Amanda Bearse, Melissa Etheridge, Marjorie Friese, and Chris Hunt** can all come out to the media, why can't you? Here at the latest ISSUE, we will gladly accept your press releases. But seriously, give some thought to taking your next step in expressing your pride in your self, your life and your community. And on October 11, take that step!

Wicked Urge?

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Wicked Halloween
Sat & Sun, October 30-31



court
REPORTER

Get Over Your Bad Selves and Enjoy the Fun

by **Stan Carlsen**

It seems apparent to me that there is an attitude in our community of disdain for people who dress in drag. This feeling probably comes from a narrow view one can get from hanging around the Merc and the Western on too many weeknights.

Or maybe folks think that adults who like to play 'dress-up' portray a negative image of gay life. But, if one thinks about it, isn't the 'style-and-vogue' youth look at Faces just as limiting a scene?

It is my firm belief that if people realized the origins and tradition of drag as a political statement and the Court System as a mainstay of our culture, all of us could just get over our judgements and have fun with it. And, when you realize what the Court has done for charities--both gay and straight--throughout Sacramento, what is there not to be proud of? Just ask our mayor--he knows, and he is honored to be invited to Court-sponsored events.

The month of September is chocked-full of such events. On Wednesday the 15th (Rosh Hoshanah for all our Jewish friends), C.Q. will perform in 'Pieces of Her Heart' at Faces video lounge. This is one real woman who does not lip-synch. Her fabulous show "is supposed to run two hours but ends up more like three," according to Imperial Crown Prince Kirby. Don't miss it.

On Sept.19, the Sierra Inn will host the Ducal Investiture. This event will present the newly-crowned Duke Paul and Duchess Alta granting titles to their loyal courtiers.

There will be entertainment and audience participation on Sept. 25 at the Sierra Inn for the Mr., Miss, and Ms. Cowboy and Cowgirl Contest. There are seven candidates running for the various titles. According to Kirby, there are no guarantees as to gender.

Finally, on Halloween weekend, Oct. 30, the ever-reliable Sierra Inn will set the scene for Closet Ball 93. This event is great fun, featuring first-time drag candidates who are first introduced in their 'street clothes' and then these darlings must then dress up in their most creative outfits, including full make-up, to be presented to a panel judges and the audience for their approval. The winner will receive a cash prize.

So get over your bad selves, click your heels together and enjoy the fun, fantasy and generosity of spirit that the Court of the Great Northwest Imperial Empire provides.



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OFF THE EDGE

Old Jocks Do Have Options - Pop Tart Toss

by **Stacy Selmants**

Many of us recently spent Sunday morning wrestling the remote, trying to watch the first "real" 49er's game AND Joe Montana's return to first string status with Kansas City. Fess up; in your heart of hearts, weren't you really just waiting to see if he'd be paralyzed or at least maimed by the second half?

Now, keep your hate mail at bay. I think Joe is the God of Football, incarnated. BUT. He is old, really old. Older than me, even. And I KNOW how an old athlete feels.

A WARNING: you have passed your prime when you hear your younger, fresher softball teammates say, in your defense, after you miss sliding into third base and become the week's new Scab Queen, "But she clots so well."

The trick of being an aging jock (and all of you smug young athletes pay attention; it too will happen to you,) is to keep making transitions, as your various bodily parts fail you. (Oh my God, did you see that? Third base just lost her left arm!")

My own jockette transitions were gradual. Fifteen years ago I played women's "B" league, left field. Then I moved down to co-ed "C" league, third base, because my legs were gone. (Don't be so literal. No I am NOT an amputee.) Now I am the first string catcher (thank you so very much for this honor) in the local co-ed gay bar league where we ask the winos to move and scrimmage every Sunday, unless everyone's too hung over to play. (Our team's motto: "Have some Hair of the Dog, and then get your butt on that field!") It's a fun, if intermittently trashy group and our occasional drag queen cheerleaders DO have the breeding to stick to daywear.

Not to demean the muscular (even the men!) competitive nature of many of these fine upstanding players. Many play on other more officially sanctioned teams, but also play on the bar league since they can drink margaritas in the bullpen (unblended; the neighbors haven't been too cooperative about extension cords).

Michael, our umpire, won't let us have drinks actually ON the field. (We're still negotiating over how close to the foul line we can put a keg.) He said he had to set SOME limits, otherwise, we would all just become savages. But obviously, we are NOT Wheaties endorsement material.

So what happens to athletes who finally have to throw in the towel? ("Sorry, Stace, you DO clot quickly, but we really need someone who can hit.") They become athletes in other, less aerobic sports, like golf, or bowling. Bowling is interesting because not only is it an indoor sport, you spend most of the time sitting in a chair, in rented shoes, swilling beer. All of the really good professional bowlers look like "Before" pictures from Jenny Craig. But they don't get jock itch. Much.

And now, **Off the Edge,** in the interest of withered, tired former jocks and jockettes everywhere, will introduce you to some transitional sports to help you to recapture that fiery, competitive glow of your youth. We present:

Alternative Sports for the Over the Hill Athlete

1. Beverage Croquet -- A staple at every "Just Say Maybe" (JSM) Club barbeque, this game was devised while the originators were still in college, (a fun decade) and still could throw a softball from third to first in time to tag the runner. But it still requires little real strength or athletic ability. It also has the first element of any true "JSM Club" sport: Goes Well With Beer. The game consists of playing croquet, preferably using pink plastic flamingoes as wickets, and the shooter must hold his/her beverage at all times while hitting balls through wickets. The rules are simple: you drop your beer, you lose your turn. Was originally called "Budweiser Croquet," but the game has evolved (as we have) to allow freedom of choice. Heineken is just fine.

2. Lingerie Twister -- This game, a great party ice-breaker/sport consists entirely of playing Twister in your skivvies, where you spin the wheel, arrange your various feet and hands on the gameboard, (which in adulthood seems to be the size of a dinner napkin) and try not to fall directly upon other people's kidneys. It is challenging and promotes muscle stretching, (as well as increased chiropractors' bills) but is better played by people who were former gymnasts than by former middle linebackers.

3. Maim the Pinata -- The trick is to see how many times you can, while blindfolded, bludgeon the pinata without actually breaking it open to let all the prizes fall to the ground. Good at parties -- where spinning people around who've consumed massive dosages of spicy lasagna and cheap red wine and watching them whack away at the furniture with a stick -- is considered good family entertainment. Promotes good upper body strength, and really frustrates any children present who are waiting for their turn.

4. Poptart Toss -- Done either in teams, or as individual events, the poptart toss is an economical, yet low-impact way to stay in shape during the winter months. Especially good for brunches.

5. Revenge Darts -- While it doesn't require brute strength, playing darts does require real

continued on page 24

Maim the Pinata. . . Spinning people around who've consumed massive dosages of spicy lasagna and cheap red wine and watching them whack away at the furniture with a stick -- is considered good family entertainment.

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FAMILY
continued from page3

be even smaller now.

The bill's source, according to the Senate Judiciary Committee's analysis, is listed as the Western Center for Law and Religious Freedom. This group was contacted and did not make a statement or respond to a request for a position paper.

Proponents of the bill claim that numerous attempts to reduce the influence and place of the family in society are legitimate evidence demonstrating the need for this constitutional amendment. "These attempts have attacked the sanctity of monogamous heterosexual marriage, the financial solvency of the family, and the foundation of the family as the author and defender of all moral underpinnings of society."

Groups listed as proponents of the bill include, not surprisingly, the Traditional Values Coalition; Capitol Resource Institute; and the Committee on Moral Concerns.

The current status of SCA 18 places it on a holdover for the legislative session of 1994. When the legislature takes up the bill again it will most likely be heard by the Assembly Judiciary Committee.

It has passed through the Senate, for the time being, after being severely amended to exclude much of the language that would directly harm gay and lesbian families.

One of the reasons for the exclusion of much of the original language is due to the opposition by the ACLU, California NOW, and the LIFE AIDS lobby. The Family Law Section of the State bar of the bill also opposes the bill because it is their feeling that the bill's language "preserving the integrity of ones family" would constitutionally abolish dissolution of marriage absent the consent of both parties.

OFF THE EDGE
continued from page 23

skill, especially if you use the regulation ones with the really, really sharp pointy tips. (When we're feeling especially risky, we sometimes like to mix both Danger and Beer.) For an added incentive to get a bullseye, we put pictures of people we don't like in the center, like Reagan, Bush, Bob Cook, the Pope. If anyone has pictures of the KFBK guys who fired Christine Craft, let us know. We'd like to see them with darts in their heads. But besides promoting good eye/hand coordination and offering a way to release hostility, Revenge Darts can be played in bars, so it meets the "JSM" Club credo: Goes Well With Beer.

POSTSCRIPT: The gay bar league playoffs are on September 19, at 21st and C. We love cheerleaders, but please girls, no sequins or after-five gowns!

FILM FESTIVAL
continued from page 19

tackles the connections between the gay and anti-apartheid movements.

"RSVP" -- A virtually wordless short about the impact of one man's death on those who loved him, set to opera music.

"Spin Cycle" -- An autobiographical piece wherein a young Black lesbian filmmaker discusses her art and (love) life.

"Tiny and Ruby: Hell-Divin' Women" -- Narrated by poet Cheryl Clarke this documentary zooms in on Ruby Lucas and Tiny Davis, two of the International Sweethearts of Rhythm, a 16-piece, interracial all-women jazz band of the 40's.

These films are spread out over two different programs, one Friday and one Saturday night with an opening night reception at A Shot of Class.

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Coors -- "It's Still The Wrong Beer Now"

by **Sister Dana Van Iquity**

Let me preface this column by telling my readers that I am definitely a full-tilt, brewski-sucking-down nun. In the good old days before the Coors boycott, I counted Adolph's brew among my favorites. But I must remain politically you-know-what, and in doing so I have some sad news for some of you.

Recently I attended a big bash/ rave/ party where the host cracked out a brand new product called Zima Clearmalt. It was a delightful, light , clear, refreshing sort of super-charged beer, that mellowly zonked this sister. Now for the bad news:

The California Association of Pride Inc. (CAPI) met in Santa Cruz where the main agenda item was the ongoing Coors Beer boycott. Not only was the long-standing brewery blackball unanimously reaffirmed, but a new ban was put upon its most recent offshoot, the afore mentioned Zima Clearmalt. Was I ever stunned!

"Coors has been trying to fragment our community and systematically divide us," commented CAPI president Bob Gervasoni. "But we will remain in full support of the hard work Gay Pride Committees have accomplished in exposing Adolph Coors' homophobia."

Gervasoni referred to the extensive research the Long Beach parade committee and others have conducted as inspiration to the other 13 pride organizations in CAPI, (Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence are members in good standing), including exhaustive study of the book, "The Coors Connection --How Coors Family Philanthropy Undermines Democratic Pluralism," and sending several letters to various managers at the brewery. Read this book, fellow activists!

The gay and Lesbian Community Forum of Los Angeles whole heartedly supports the 16 year old boycott. "The reasons were several, but one was the contributions of members of the Coors family to a variety of right wing organizations: Heritage Foundation [Rev. Pat Robertson's baby], Free Congress Foundation [neither free nor congregational], Morality in Media [media yes, but hardly moral], and a whole Noah's Ark of such anti-gay, antiprogressive organizations," said Morris Kight of the Forum.

"We recognize the Coors Families' right to contribute to the right wing, homophobic organizations of their choice," added Forum member Ivy Bottini, "but we have an equal right, indeed, duty to deny them the money with which to do it in the first place."

This sentiment was recently shared by voted of the International Association of Gay and Lesbian Pride Coordinators (IAGLPC). The Forum, CAPI, and IAGLPC alike are thus urging all gay pride events organizers and queer bar owners nationwide to refuse to sell any Coors products, because the brewery is located in Colorado's land of Amendment Two (boo!) because of its gay-hating fundamentalist support.

In rebuttal, Ron Kirkpatrick, Western Region Community Relations Manager for Coors said, "Coors and its local distributors have provided more than $300,000 in support of gay and lesbian groups since 1988. Coors was at the forefront of development of a humane business policy about AIDS in the workplace in the Rocky Mountain Region and has provided support for a variety of AIDS support groups throughout the U.S." Kirkpatrick summed up by saying, "The bottom line, fact-of-the-matter is that there is no perfect beer company right now in regards to gay and lesbian rights."

Mary Martinez, president of Long Beach CA Pride accused Kirkpatrick of using derogatory, patronizing tone, and counters that she hopes no further funds will be accepted as blood money from Coors by the queer community (hello, are you listening out there??) until all CAPI's demands are met, including a public policy issued by the banned brewery against Amendment Two, a published dossier on Coors' principal stockholders (right-wing fundies) and their philanthropic history (i.e.: giving $$ to Jesse Helms types), and an official statement reaffirming Coors' commitment of support for their employees with AIDS.

Five years ago Judi Doyle of Orange County Gay and Lesbian Community Center boycott negotiations team predicted some gaysbian communities would buckle: "I think Coors has a feeling that this boycott will just end, and has already made some small inroads into this community." Kirkpatrick admits "the purpose of a boycott is to initiate change and gain dialogue for further change. To that degree, the Coors gay boycott has been a success."

The successful beer ban will therefore continue, adding to the roster Coors' newest product, ZIMA Clearmalt, which will now become clearly off limits to politically correct queer beer drinkers, along with George Killian, Keystone Light, Cutter, and Moussy [the last two being nonalcoholic members of the Coors family].

"My question is," said Gervasoni," where is the networking in the community that should be providing this information and encouraging the community to put pressure on the bars? CAPI will soon be distributing questionnaires to bar owners as to whether Coors has been courting them. But be assured that the beer boycott on Adolph's rages on!

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PRIVILEGE

continued from page 9

justices supported the right of states to criminalize private consensual gay sex, and Michael Hardwick spent a year in a Georgia prison for making love.

Some anti-gay laws are even more pro-active in their attempt to preserve heterosexual supremacy. Colorado's Amendment 2 blatantly forbid any legal protection for gays, lesbians and bisexuals. It passed. It spawned numerous offspring measures in other states. That the law is in trouble in the courts is a source of hope.

Not all aspects of heterosexual privilege are written into the legal codes. Much of the exclusion of gays, bisexuals and lesbians arises from social convention that has gone unchallenged for centuries.

We are excluded from the ministry in most churches. In fact, most religious sects exclude us altogether.

We have no access for the most part to family memberships, couples discounts, campus housing, or family travel packages.

The insurance companies and IRS will forever label us "single, whether or not we are."

Our heroes from the past are excised from the history books or heterosexualized so that lovers become friends and gay sensibilities are watered down. (More than one edition of the Leaves of Grass edits out Walt Whitman's homoerotic and homoaffectional poetry.) And who even knows that Michelangelo wrote love sonnets, or that Alexander the Great built monuments to his lost lover, or that Leonardo DaVinci kept getting arrested for sodomy?)

Our books are excluded from most bookstores and libraries. School curriculums refuse to acknowledge us. We have to hire lawyers to go to our own high school proms. When we rent an apartment, if we are even allowed to honestly rent an apartment, we are charged for two credit checks, unlike married heterosexuals who receive a couple's two-for-one discount.

There has never been a television show with a main character who is gay, and the number of gay minor characters is ludicrously low considering our numbers in the population.

Most radio shows, commercials, billboards, news articles, magazines and store catalogues ignore our existence. The movies that feature us would not fill a section in the average video store. Our national magazines, if they are carried at all, are grouped with skin magazines. (Only two non-porno stores in Sacramento carry The Advocate, Genre, and Out.)

The majority of newspapers in the country have never seen a gay character grace their comic pages or ad copy. Any reader who doubts the sexuality imbalance needs only to pick up any periodical or book or computer software nearby and start counting the references to gays, lesbians and bisexuals. Use your fingers. The toes won't be necessary.

The overwhelming majority of cultural images in America are clearly heterosexual. And those that arise from the gay sensibility are often disguised so that only those "in the know" ever recognize their origins.

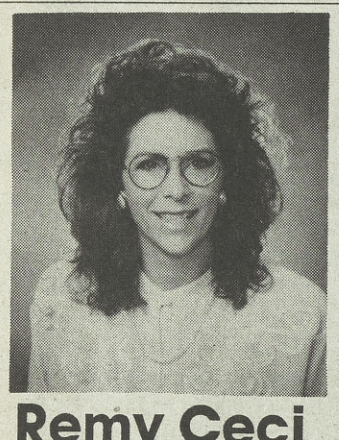
The constant battles over censorship of gay oriented art makes it clear that these oversights are not accidental, but by design. There are many out there who would have us once again become silent and invisible, and the exclusion that they once accomplished through tradition and convention, they now advocate for loudly in the political and social arenas.

Our being here makes even good folk uncomfortable. We are alien. We are different. And for too long we were content to deny ourselves, in order to live a kind of borrowed peace. The semantic games and circumventions that worked in those ages when the hatred of us and the lack of recourse for human rights forced us to accept the closet.

But elements of history and movements ripen like fruit, and once they do there is no more hiding, no more pretending we are something other than what we are. Our time of ripening is now, and those who continue to acquiesce to the heterosexual privilege of the past will only make themselves look silly in the end. An apple can't call itself a pear once its skin turns red.

That heterosexuals have a thousand privileges that are denied lesbians, gays and bisexuals is not the natural state of the world. It is not just. It is not kind. It is not civilized. It is not right.

It is understandable given human history, but it is nevertheless reprehensible. To submit to this state of affairs out of habit or fear is equally understandable, but also wrong, wrong because it will only delay the time when the battle over gender and orientation will become an unfortunate and rather odd anachronism for the historians to ponder. Would that we were all committed to hastening that day.



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Pansy Division Sings Openly About Queer Life

by Shannon Wong-Lerner

Pansy Division is a gay male punk rock band that's gaining noteriety through their songs that talk about being queer in the 90s and enjoying safe-sex. Sacramento's youth were in awe seeing a band that was much talked about, but never before seen.

Pansy Division's members include Jon Ginloi (lead singer and song writer), Chris Freeman (bassist and back-up vocals) and David Ward (drummer).

While performing and entertaining the young people at the Rainbow Festival, they spoke of important issues of gayness, sexuality and non-acceptance. According to the very energetic and lively Freeman, "We're glad to get an appreciative audience." Many fans came up to Freeman after the show and said how happy they were to see them here. Some even asked for autographs.

The band is known for their shock value type lyrics and their pro-sex and pro-safe-sex points of view. "Most people just coming out need to hear our issues" said Freeman, "We promote safe sex. We want to say "Come out, just don't be stupid." Some of their songs talking about safe sex were played at the show. One of them was "The Cock-sucking Club" and the lyrics are: "So lick, lick, lick. Suck,suck, suck. Unroll the condoms and fuck, fuck, fuck."

Most of the people at the concert who had never heard Pansy Division's music before had looks of embarrassment and shock on their faces. The people who had heard them before had a content smile and dancing feet by the middle of the show. The favorite songs of the cheering of the crowd were, "Bill and Ted's Homo-sexual Adventure" and "Smells Like Queer Spirit" a queer version of Nirvana's "Smell's Like Teen Spirit." A group of gay men screamed and yelled when "Curvature" was played. It's a song explaining in detail why a man's dick is better with curvature.

"The most important thing Pansy Division has done, is made people aware of safe gay sex and has made some people excited and proud about being gay. "Some people think their lyrics talking about gay sex is offensive. But if they think that what they're doing in bed is offensive then they need a reality check anyways," said a devoted fan named Jean.

With the explicit exposure of gay sex in their songs, the band feels that it makes people comfortable with homosexuality or at least forces people to familiarize themselves with it. "When Jon thought of starting an all gay guy's band, he knew that either he would do it, or someone else would." said Freeman.

Pansy Division released a C.D. called "Undressed." They've also released three singles titled; "Femme In a Black Leather Jacket," "Smells Like Queer Spirit" and "Homo X-mas." The second single contains "Bill & Ted's Homosexual Adventure" and "Big Bottom."

Their new single has "Trash" "Homo-sapien" and "Touch My Joe Camel" on it. The band's future plans are to finish a new single released in December or January. They are also recording a new C.D. to be released in February or March of next year.. Some of the songs on the new album are "James Bondage." The others are "Reciprocate" and "Beer-can Boy."

With Sacramento's queer youth screaming for identity, Pansy Division has a good chance of coming back to town to play another show.

Pansy Division has made a name for themselves being the first gay male band to not be afraid or embarrassed to talk about who they are, how they do it, and how to do it safely.



Photo by Marc Geller

Pansy Divisions Jon Ginloi, Chris Freeman, and David Ward.

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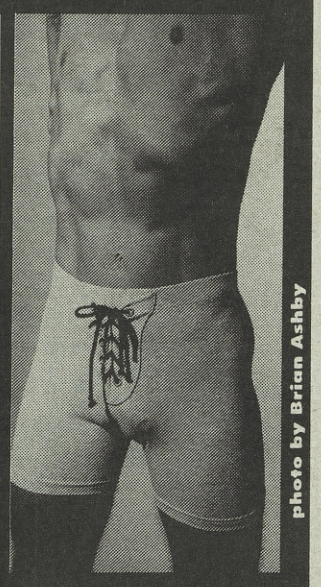


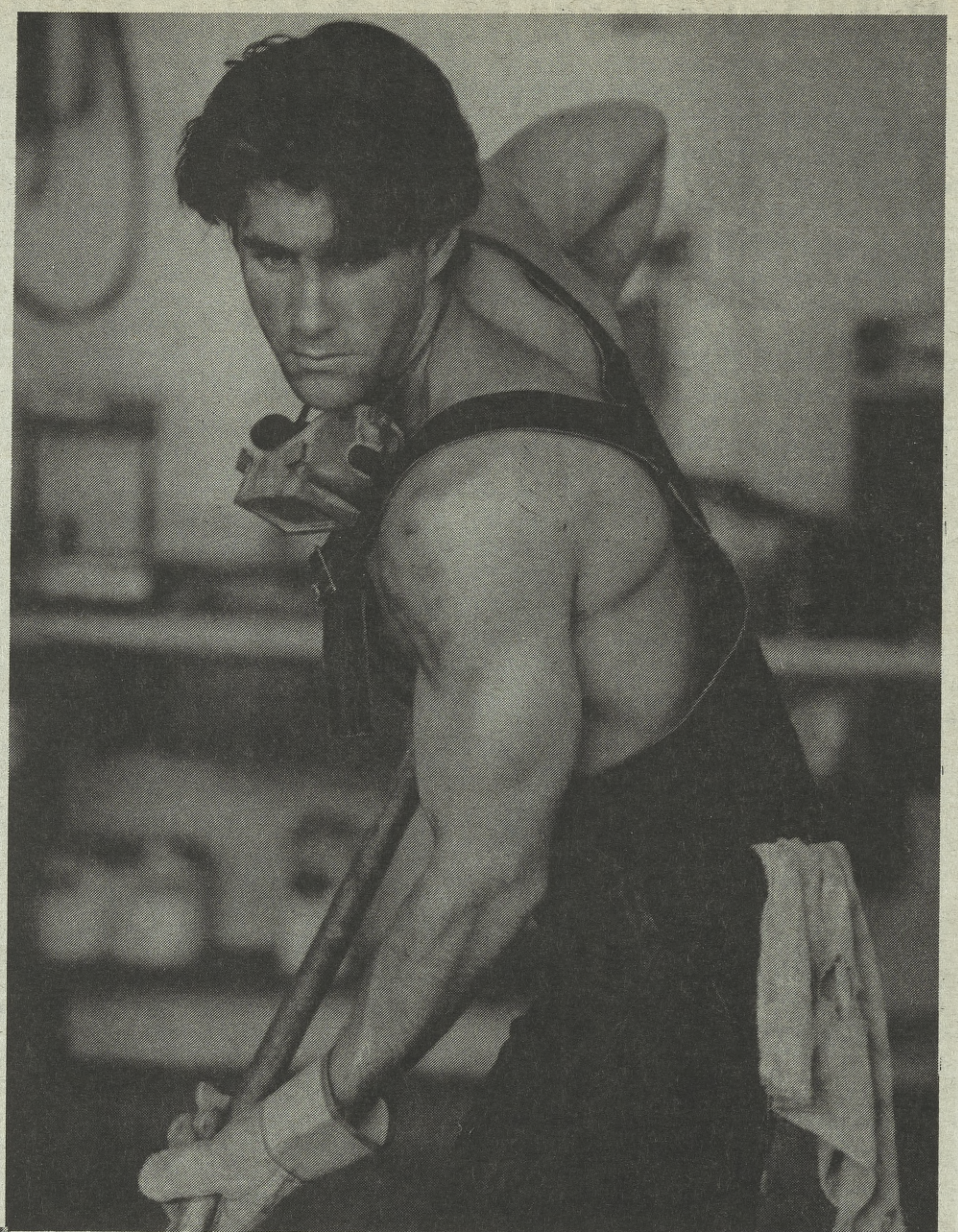
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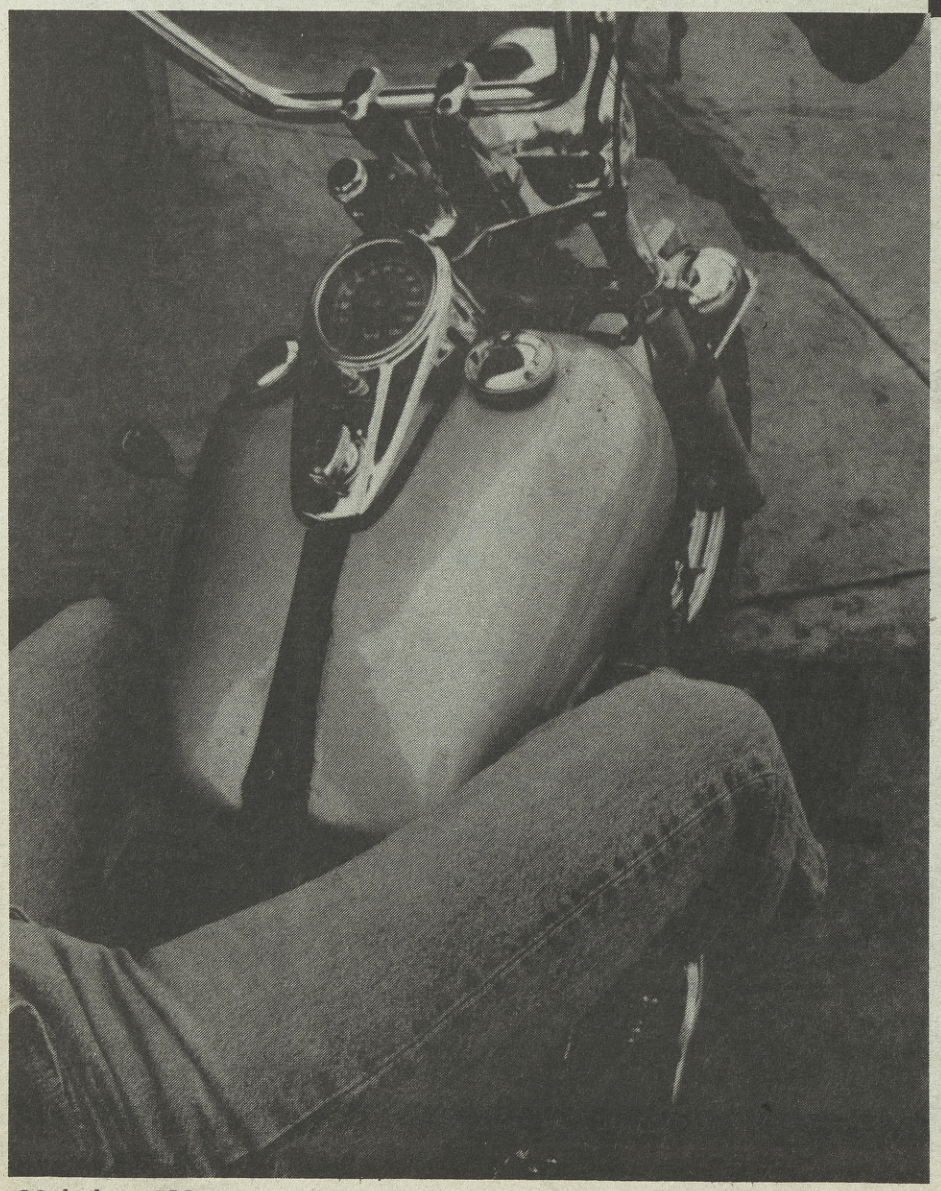
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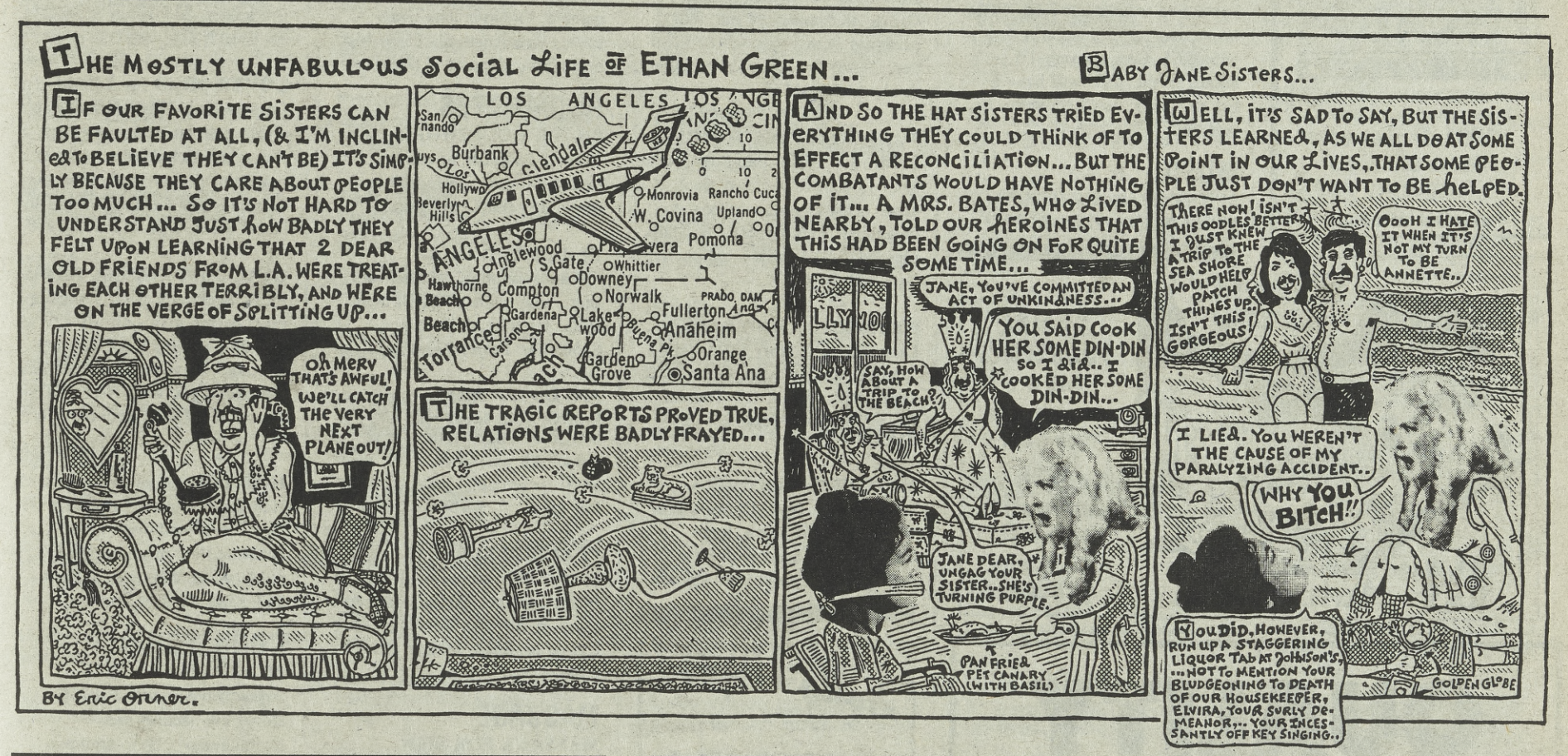
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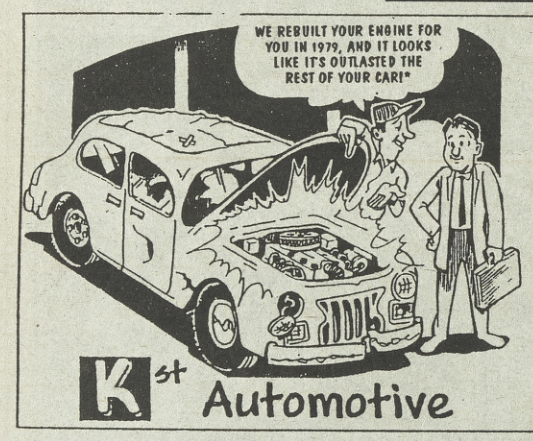
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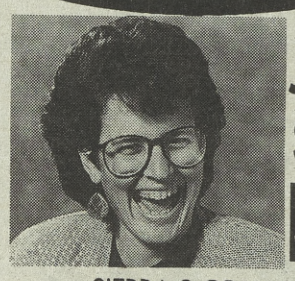
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Barbetta's Beads, 1004 24th Street, Sacramento. 443-4959.

BICYCLES
Different Spokes Bicycle Club, James 737-0451.

BOOKS
Lioness Books, 2224 J Street, Sacramento. 442-4657.

Midtown Books Annex, 1012 24th Street, Sacramento. 442-9295.

Sierra Club Store, 907 K Street, Sacramento. 447-9003.

CAFES
Espresso Metro, 2104 11th Ave. and 1100 11th Street, Sacramento. 444-6130.

Greta's, 1831 Capitol Ave., Sacramento. 442-7382.

CAR STEREO
Harbor Auto Stereo, 2727 W. Capitol Ave., West Sacramento. 374-TUNE.

CARDS/GIFTS
Apple Blossom, 3330 Folsom Blvd. Sacramento. 737-9282.

Choices, 2417 K Street, Sacramento. 448-6742.

Moment of Touch, 2230 J Street, Sacramento. 443-4011.

Post Cards Etc., 1115 21st Street, Sacramento. 446-8049.

Tree of Life, 918 25th Street, Sacramento. 447-3336.

CHIROPRACTIC
Lynn McNeal, D.C., 4611 H Street, Sacramento. 452-9461.

CHURCHES
Church of Enthusiasm and Joy, Rev. Jeff Serkin, 2550 Valley Rd. #5, Sacramento. 489-7503.

Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer, 4641 Marconi Ave., Sacramento. Pr. Todd Van Laningham, 483-5691.

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A-1 Dri-Kleen, Carpet and Upholstery Cleaning Specialists. 920-0729.

Allaway Cleaning Service, Sacramento. 442-8532.

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Cheap Thrills, 1217 21st Street, Sacramento. 446-1366.

Genesis Male, 2220 J Street, Midtown. 444-6778.

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COMPUTERS
Compusystems, 1819 J Street, Sacramento. 448-2383

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Sherry Bullard, Ph.D., M.F.C.C., LI#14044, House calls and evening appointments available. 668-9931.

Sandra Fields, Ph.D., #LC3725, 2740 Fulton Ave., Suite 120, Sacramento. 484-6376.

Joan Frazzini, L.C.S.W., LG#9415, 1731 I Street, Sacramento. 447-9114.

Bruce Gunn, M.F.C.C., #MM19480, Sacramento. 443-7171.

Bob Hall M.F.C.C., 2740 Fulton Ave., Suite 100-D, Sacramento. 481-9141.

Kate MacKenzie, L.C.S.W., 1731 I Street, Sacramento. 447-0350.

Meredith Richards, M.A., M.F.C.C. Intern #IMF21497, 5619 Marconi Ave., Suite 1, Sacramento. 973-1060.

Sandra Warne, M.A. #IMF17590, 650 Howe Ave., Suite 730, Sacramento. 333-0888.

CREMATIONS
Nautilus Society, send for free brochure, 5500 Lemon Hill, Sacramento, 95824. 392-1234.

DENTIST
Madderra Dental Group, 2020 Hurley Way, #200, Sacramento. 929-0969.

FLOWERS
Freeport Flowers and Gifts, 4900 Freeport Blvd. Sacramento. 455-0561.

Michael's Flowers, 4751 J Street, Sacramento. 454-0717.

FRAMING
Archival Framing, 1729 L Street, Sacramento. 444-9624.

Abreu Gallery, 3712 Auburn Blvd., Sacramento. 488-1211.

FUNERALS
Nightingale * Gilmore Funeral Chapel, 1030 Del Paso Blvd. 925-3549.

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Pat Medina, 1221 21st Street, Sacramento. In Crazy Razor Salon 446-3790.

Trendsetters Hair & Nails, 1406 28th Street, Sacramento. 455-0514.

Wham! 2228 J Street, Sacramento. 447-8931.

HOME LOANS
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Bankers Mortgage, Brad Bauer, 863-3793, Rick Oldham, 863-3788.

Guild Mortgage, Maureen Parnell, 363-9960 or vm 537-9413.

Partners Mortgage, Debra Middleton. 1610 Arden Way, #110. (800) 488-1134 or 923-5900.

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MUFFINS
Muffins Etc., 5635 H Street, Sacramento. 452-1829.

OPTOMETRIST
Dr. Cameron Yee, 6407 Riverside Blvd. Sacramento. 395-0673.

ORGANIZATION
Lambda Community Center, 1931 L Street, Sacramento. 442-0185.

Sacramento AIDS Foundation, 920 20th Street, Sacramento. 448-2437.

SACWN, Sacramento Area Career Women's Network, 1616 29th Street, Suite#310, Sacramento. 451-8034.

PETS & FISH
Animal Housecall Service, Dr. Nancy Weagly, Veterinarian. 456-0967.

Capitol Aquarium, 29th & T Street, Sacramento. 452-5556.

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Ashby On Location, Sacramento. 456-8849.

PRINTING
Sacramento Quick Print, 2612 J Street, Sacramento. 442-5615.

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Remy Ceci, Realtor, Sacramento, 972-0212 (w), 557-4144 (vm) or 739-1212.

Dennis Costa, Realtor, 5713 N. Pershing Ave. Suite E, Stockton. (209) 951-2000.

Fred Hess, Gold River Realtors, 638-1177 or 568-8136..

Jayne Rountree, Rountree Real Estate. 921-6642.

Angie Saldivia, Pfingst Realty, Sacramento. 362-1166.

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RESORTS
Holly's Place, A Women's Retreat in Tahoe. (916) 544-7040.

Rancho Cicada, in the Sierra Foothills, (209) 544-7040.

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Incredible Edible, 1401 Alhambra Blvd. Sacramento. 456-9120.

Pescado's, 2801 P Street, Sacramento. 452-7237.

Taqueria - Taco Loco, 2326 J Street & 1122 11th Street Sacramento. 447-0711.

SIGNS
Jet Signs, 5099 Tonya Way, Carmichael. 863-5383.

STORAGE
El Camino Self- Storage, 1850 Glenrose Ave. Sacramento. El Camino at Arden. 922-2224.

THEATER
The Crest Theater, 1013 K Street Mall, Sacramento. 44-CREST.

TAXES
Gail Gibson, bookkeeping and tax prepartation for individuals and business. 682-4808.

Marsha Oritt, Consolidated Investment Services, Inc. 965-5437 or 672-2439.

Whitlock Consultant, 8245 Florin Rd. Suite A-2m Sacramento. 383-1421.

Whitney and Killick, 2321 Lloyd Lane, Sacramento. 486-8985.

TRAVEL
Aladdin Travel, Rob Thorbin, 818 K Street Mall, Sacramento. 446-0633.

Red Shoes Travel, 454-4201. For business accounts call Kevin Cohee, 456-5820.

Sports Leisure Travel, 9527-A Folsom Blvd. Sacramento. 361-2051.

VIBRATORS
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VIDEOS
Films For Days, 2300 O Street, Sacramento. 448-FILM.

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